

From: Communications | IFOAM - Organics International
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2019 12:45 PM
To: Strzelecki, Kelly - FAS
Subject: Call for Abstracts: First International Conference on Agroecology

IFOAM - Organics International | Uniting the Organic World Since 1972

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Together IFOAM – Organics International, Biovision Africa Trust, The World Food Preservation Centre, and Ecological Organic Agriculture are organizing the:

First International Conference on Agroecology
Transforming Agriculture and Food Systems in Africa
Reducing Synthetic Fertilizers and Pesticides By Scaling Up
Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade

This inaugural event will be held from June 18-21, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. Highlights will include an opening keynote address given by World Food Prize Laureate and IFOAM – Organics International Board Member Dr. Hans Rudolf Herren, plenary sessions, and a visit to the field.

Registration for this conference is now open, submit your abstract
[online here](#) by April 30, 2019 to join!



Conference Overview:

- Underscore the call for decision makers to support healthy, equitable, efficient, resilient, and culturally diverse food and agricultural systems as well as practices.
- Emphasize and support women's role in producing nutritious food.
- Recognize the importance of engaging women, youth, and communities as active partners in sustainable food systems.
- Endorse the right of people, communities, and countries to define their own food systems, which are ecologically, socially, economically and culturally appropriate to their unique contexts.
- Empower producers and consumers to make better decisions and choices.

For additional thematic and logistical information, click [here](#).

We look forward to seeing you in Nairobi!

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IFOAM - Organics International
Charles-de-Gaulle-Straße 5
53113 Bonn, Germany

www.ifoam.bio
Trial Court Bonn, Association
Register no. 8726

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From: Charles Wilson
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 10:47 AM
To: Maouia, Nabil - FAS
Subject: EXPANDED CONFERENCE



DEAR COLLEAGUE:

THE WORLD FOOD PRESERVATION CENTER LLC HAS JOINED WITH BIOVISION AFRICA TRUST AND ITS PARTNERS TO CONDUCT AN EXPANDED CONFERENCE

TITLED:

" 1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa"

Besides addressing the impact of synthetic pesticide and fertilizer contamination on the African people, their animals, and environment the expanded conference will present AGROECOLOGY as a long term and sustainable solution to the problem of synthetic pesticide and fertilizer contamination in the African continent.

PLAN TO ATTEND

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

For the

**"1st International Conference on
Agroecology Transforming Agriculture &
Food Systems in Africa"**

Formerly Called

**"1st All Africa Congress on Synthetic
Pesticides, Environment, Human and
Animal Health"**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION HERE

Authors of outstanding abstracts (selected by a panel of distinguished scientists) will be asked to write a book chapter to be included among chapters written by Keynote Speakers at the Conference for a book titled, "Scaling Up Agroecology to Reduce Synthetic Pesticide and Fertilizer Contamination in Africa"

**Safari Park Hotel &
Casino, Nairobi, Kenya
June 18-20, 2019**

<https://www.worldfoodpreservationcenterpesticidecongress.com/>



**LEADING WORLD SCIENTISTS
ADDRESS URGENT PESTICIDE
CONCERNS IN AFRICA**

Join leading world scientists to consider the impact of synthetic pesticides on the African people, their animals, and environment. Explore ways to substantially reduce synthetic pesticide contamination in the African continent.

Are pesticides and GMOs carcinogenic? Do some insecticides cause neurological diseases?

Are insecticides responsible for insect and specifically bee decline?

What is the impact of synthetic pesticides on African wildlife?

CONGRESS WEBSITE HERE

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Hans Herren	Tyrone Hayes
	
World Food Prize Laureate, Right Livelihood Award 'Alternative Nobel Prize'	Professor, UC Berkeley, Research Pioneer Duke Invitee for "Crown Lecture in Ethics"

Pioneering scientists researching health and environmental effects of synthetic pesticides will be keynote speakers at the congress. Leaders in synthetic-pesticide-free agriculture such as Agroecology, Organic Regenerative Agriculture, and Permaculture will also speak.

Leading world scientists in the development of safe alternatives to synthetic pesticides will give keynote addresses.

The Mission of the Conference is to Chart a Course Forward that will Substantially and Sustainably Reduce Synthetic Pesticide Contamination in the African continent.

Plan to Attend and Participate

[YOU CAN REGISTER HERE](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

This message was sent to Nabil.Maouia@fas.usda.gov from worldfoodpreservationcenter@frontier.co

Charles Wilson
WORLD FOOD PRESERVATION CENTER LLC
28 Eldrige Lane
CHARLES TOWN, West Virginia 25414

From: Karembu margaret
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 7:29 AM
To: Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS;Kamau, Carol - FAS
Subject: FW: PRESS RELEASE - Pesticide congress in June

Dear Kevin and Carol,

The PDU is as concerned – see below...We need an elaborate strategy PLUS resources! Appreciate your thoughts..

Thanks,
Margaret

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ruth Kagia @gmail.com>
(b) (6)

Date: Mon, 18 Mar 2019, 12:07 pm

Subject: Fwd: Fw: PRESS RELEASE

To: Lydia Muriuki @gmail.com>, Dr. Philemon Kiprono <@gmail.com> (b) (6) (b) (6)

This could disrupt our work on BT. Look at the press release and the way some of the questions are phrased which could disrupt the discussion and deviate from what is needed for a agricultural transformation.

Had a quick word with PS Boga.

R

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THE PRESS RELEASE BELOW AND PLAN TO
ATTEND

1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa

Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling Up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade

[PRESS RELEASE HERE](#)

OUTSTANDING SPEAKERS AND VENUE

LEADING WORLD SCIENTISTS
PRESENT AGROECOLOGY AS A
MEANS TO SUSTAINABLY
REDUCE SYNTHETIC
PESTICIDE CONTAMINATION IN
AFRICA

Join leading world scientists to consider the impact of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers on the African people, their animals, and environment. And, explore ways to sustainably reduce synthetic pesticide and fertilizer contamination in the African continent through Agroecology.

Are pesticides and GMOs carcinogenic? Do some insecticides cause neurological diseases?

Are insecticides responsible for insect and specifically bee decline?

What is the impact of synthetic pesticides on African wildlife?

Plan to Attend and Participate

[YOU CAN REGISTER HERE](#)

From: Sage-EL, Kevin L
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 3:39 AM
To: Kamau, Carol - FAS;Gitonga, Kennedy - FAS
CC: Townsend, Shane - FAS
Subject: FW: I Researched Some of These Activist 'Rock Stars'

Hi All,

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Kevin L. Sage-EL
Agricultural Counselor
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Rwanda, Burundi and
the East African Community

Office of Agricultural Affairs, U.S.Embassy, Nairobi
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
www.fas.usda.gov/
USDANairobi.org | “*Do right and feed everyone*” – Secretary Sonny Perdue

Tel: + , Fax: +254 20 363 6349, Cell: +
(b) (6) (b) (6)
Email: Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
P. O. Box 606 Village Market, 00621 Nairobi, Kenya,

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

EL

From: Kevin Sage- (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:33 PM
To: Kevin Sage-EL <kevin.sage-el@usda.gov>
Subject: I Researched Some of These Activist 'Rock Stars'

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

[https://www.democracynow.org/2014/2/21/silencing the scientist tyrone hayes on](https://www.democracynow.org/2014/2/21/silencing_the_scientist_tyrone_hayes_on) (b) (5)

Deliberative Process Privilege

<https://www.acsh.org/news/2014/10/02/new-study-federal-geologists-tyrone-hayes-shows-frog-harm-atrazine>

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/glp-facts/don-huber-science-still-looking-for-purdue-professors-gmo-pathogen-time-bomb-2/>

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2018/12/21/10-gmo-memes-backed-up-by-science/>

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/glp-facts/institute-for-agriculture-and-trade-policy-anti-gmo-group-supports-sustainable-food-distorts-ecological-benefits-of-crop-biotechnology/>

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2018/06/08/infamous-seralini-gmo-rat-tumor-study-debunked-by-european>

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2018/06/13/science-disproves-seralini-gmo-rat-tumor-study-but-his-findings-were-always-an-outlier/>

(b) (6)

<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2018/03/07/ghanaian-scientist-gmo-food-safer-sustainable-conventional-crops/>

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

<https://www.gmo-evidence.com/dr-judy-carman-evidence-of-gmo-harm-in-pig-study/>

<https://sciencebasedmedicine.org/once-more-bad-science-in-Process-Privilege>

[the-service-of-anti-gmo-activism/](#) - (b) (5) Deliberative

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Organic activists used to predict that negative health impacts from consuming GMOs would be rather immediate, within a year or two, 10 years tops. But as more major crops were genetically modified and the overwhelming majority of farmers adopted them, and as the years drifted by, organic activists found themselves at a loss for an explanation. We began to hear demands for long-term, multigenerational studies from within organic circles.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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From: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC

Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 11:46 AM

To: Williams, Tommie - FAS, ROME USMISS FOR FOOD AGR,ITALY;Kairn, Molly - FAS, Washington, DC

CC: ROB WAGER;Bruce, Candice - FAS, Washington, DC;Knisley, Shelbi - FAS,;Jay

Byrne **Subject:** Introductions - FAS/Rome

Attachments: Media Launch - Media invite for the Agroecology Conference 11062019.pdf

Dear Tommie and Molly,

I would like to introduce you to Rob Wager, a biologist from Vancouver Island University in Canada. He will be visiting Rome on the way back from a trip to Kenya, where he will be providing a voice of reason during the All Africa Agroecology Congress (see press invite attached). The Congress is organized by a coalition of anti-GE groups that have been spreading misinformation in Africa in an attempt to derail efforts to develop biotech crops and other modern technologies. If it fits your schedule, I think it would be very valuable to hear a brief from Rob about his experience and the linkages these conferences may have to the FAO agroecology initiatives.

Rob, I know that you will be in Nairobi June 14-21. Can you share your travel dates for Rome and Geneva? Have you also reached out to the Canadian Mission?

I understand there are some events taking place the week of June 24th at FAO so please advise as soon as you can to get on Tommie's calendar.

Thanks for your help!

Shoshana

Shoshana Griffith

International Trade Specialist covering Africa, Middle East, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan
New Technologies & Production Methods Division | Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs
Foreign Agricultural Service | United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington DC 20250 | Room 5949

+ | Shoshana.Griffith@usda.gov

(b) (6)

Sent: Monday, February 11, 2019 10:12 AM
To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS;Kamau, Carol - FAS;Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS
Subject: RE: Biotech Kenya Updates

Dear Shoshana,

No worries, tomorrow is fine with me, I recall though Diane had indicated non-availability for Tuesday but she can always get the briefings. You may also be aware ILSI will be holding a Data Transportability workshop in Addis, March 12- 13th and I have been helping them in identify appropriate participants within COMESA member countries.

Thanks and talk more tomorrow.

Warmest regards,
Margaret

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2019 6:00 PM
To: Kamau, Carol - FAS; Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS; Karembu margaret
Subject: Biotech Kenya Updates
When: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 8:30 AM-9:30 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: // Access
(b) (6) (b) (6)

Sorry to miss you all today. We can use my conference line Tuesday.

We have a lot to catch up on, but here's a quick brainstorm

- Updates from Nairobi
- Updates from DC – New Amb, U.S. labeling rule
- Cabinet meetings
- Cotton NPTs and other R&D project status
- Future activities/events – e.g., in June it looks like ABCI, Séralini's conference, and TIWG talks could happen in Kenya/Tanzania
- Biotech outreach funds (incl. March WTO SPS Thematic Session on FAW)
- Work with NBA on animal and genome editing regulations

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From: Karembu margaret
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 10:11 AM
To: 'Rob'

KENYA;'ISAAA Staff'

Subject: RE: Following up on Rob Wager introductions/Tel Number incomplete

Attachments: Media Launch - Media invite for the Agroecology Conference 11062019.pdf

Great! What's the country code?

A heads-up on what we have been able to do so far:

1. Requested the Kenya National Academy of Sciences to host you for a Media Café on Friday evening. 2. Received attached Media invite, unfortunately this will be on Friday morning before you arrive, hopefully some stories from our event will cross.
3. Requested a farmer leader for your farm visit on Saturday (about 130Km away) to get a feel of farming systems in Kenya, interview farmers for a blog story..etc.
4. Meeting with the National Biosafety Authority and Pest Control Products Board on Monday.

More later.

Thanks,
Margaret

From: Rob <@shaw.ca>

(b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 4:29 PM

To: 'Karembu, Margaret' <@isaaa.org>

(b) (6)

Cc: 'Griffith, Shoshana - FAS' <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>; 'Jay Byrne' <@v-fluence.com>; 'Joshua Gilder' (b) (6)

(b) (6)

KENYA' <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>

<@gmail.com>; 'Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS, NAIROBI,

Subject: RE: Following up on Rob Wager introductions

Yes I have added Whatsapp to my phone I will register this morning for the conference. (b) (6)

Rob

From: Karembu, Margaret <@isaaa.org>

(b) (6)

Sent: June 11, 2019 9:46 PM

To: ROB WAGER @shaw.ca>

(b) (6)

Cc: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>; Jay Byrne <@v-fluence.com>; Joshua Gilder (b) (6)

(b) (6)

KENYA <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>

<@gmail.com>; Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS, NAIROBI,

Subject: Re: Following up on Rob Wager introductions

Dear Rob,

SURE, that was one of our strategies!!!

OK with me for a later call. Are you on whatsapp? It's easier to keep in touch in real time. Are you attending the conference?

Thanks,
Margaret

On Wed, 12 Jun 2019, 03:27 Rob, @shaw.ca> wrote:

(b) (6)

bringing plenty of information of why these people are not to be believed.

Cheers

Rob

From: Karembu, Margaret @isaaa.org>

(b) (6)

Sent: June 11, 2019 12:46 PM

To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>

Cc: Jay Byrne @v-fluence.com>; ROB WAGER r@shaw.ca>; Joshua Gilder

(b) (6) (b) (6)

<@gmail.com>; Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS, NAIROBI, KENYA <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>

(b) (6)

Subject: Re: Following up on Rob Wager introductions

Dear Shoshana, Jay,

A quick update: I had earlier on started preparing some meetings for Rob through KUBICO- Kenya University Biotechnology Consortium and around one of our Universities near the Safari Park hotel where the Agro-ecology conference will be taking place but midway learnt NBA had already sent him an invitation. I thus abandoned the process and moved into other things.

We appreciate Rob's contribution to the efforts on the ground and will try and see what is possible within the short time remaining. I was hoping to have a phone conversation with Rob today but got some delay with evening calls. Will definitely get in touch tomorrow.

Rob: Welcome to Kenya! Looking forward to talking to you tomorrow, possibly 3pm Nairobi time? Let me know. I tried writing you a text message today but not sure you got it?

Thanks and regards,

Margaret

On Tue, 11 Jun 2019, 20:02 Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC, <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov> wrote: 14

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Hello Jay!

Rob, I just wanted to reiterate that we're very pleased that you made the trip work and we think it will have a great impact in Kenya.

Are you already in touch with FAS/Rome?

Best,

Shoshana

Shoshana Griffith

International Trade Specialist covering Africa, Middle East, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan

New Technologies & Production Methods Division | Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs

Foreign Agricultural Service | United States Department of Agriculture

1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington DC 20250 | Room 5949

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(b) (6)

From: Jay Byrne <@v-fluence.com>
(b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 11:00 AM

To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>

Cc: ROB WAGER @shaw.ca>; Joshua Gilder @gmail.com>
(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Following up on Rob Wager introductions

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Shoshana – I'm writing to follow up on our prior discussions about VIU biologist Rob Wager's upcoming visit to Nairobi to attend the All Africa Agroecology Congress. Rob has an official invitation from Prof. Dorington O. Ogoyi, Chief Executive Officer, National Biosafety Authority to meet. However, his schedule in Nairobi (other than during the Congress and his meeting with Dr. Ogoyi) is still open to other meetings, briefings or interviews if your local contact Kevin or others at USDA/USAID/DoS or any other recommended contacts might be interested in making best use of his time.

FAO mission. Let me know if you'd like to discuss. I've copied in Rob's email as well.

Travel Schedule:

- Arrives Nairobi, Kenya Friday, 14 June 2019 6 AM (Air France Flight 814 from Paris)
- Hotel while in Nairobi is Safari Park Hotel
- Departs Nairobi, Kenya Friday June 21 11:45 PM (Kenya Air 128 to Geneva/Rome)

Note: Rob Wager's trip is financed solely by his university and independent foundation support with no ties to agribusiness industry. He will be responsible for all of his costs and expenses while in Kenya and seeks no additional or outside financial remuneration for his time or expenses

Jay Byrne, president

v-Fluence

Toll Free: 877-835-8362 ext.

(b) (6)

USA +1 314-880-8000 ext

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Mobile:

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/jaybyrne>

Fax: 877-568-4848

SKYPE: Jay_Byrne

=====

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Visiting our St. Louis Office? [Click here for details and directions](#) to 360 N. Boyle, 2nd Floor, St. Louis, MO 63108.

From: Jay Byrne

Sent: Sunday, May 26, 2019 9:35 AM

To: shoshana.griffith@fas.usda.gov

Cc: tpowell@usaid.gov; blackburnza@state.gov; Joshua Gilder <@gmail.com>

(b) (6)

Subject: FYI: Another agroecology event promoting transition from conventional ag scheduled with FAO participation sponsored by OECD with anti-GMO & organic featured speakers (Chile November 2019)

Click here to see all recent and archived [agroecology](#) content.

[Event: University of Chile to host OECD-sponsored conference on transition from conventional food systems to agroecology; speakers include FAO, OECD, Chile Ministry of Agriculture, IFOAM and anti-GMO academics and NGOs](#)

May 26, 2019 **Source:** Universidad de Chile | **Stakeholder:** Academic

URL: <http://agroecology.uchile.cl/>

We are very pleased to announce the “Workshop on Challenges for Agroecology Development for the Building of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems” that is going to be held at the University of Chile on 11-13 November 2019. The aim of the workshop is to promote the transition from conventional agriculture towards agroecology as a science, practice ...

Jay Byrne, president

v-Fluence

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Fax: 877-568-4848

=====
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From: Adeola Ala

Sent: Saturday, May 25, 2019 2:07 PM

To: Klein Ileleji;George Opit;OTITODUN Mrs.;Solorio, Elise - FAS,;Samuel G McNeill;samuel nwaubani;Tarver, Harold - FAS, Washington, DC;Mobolaji Omobowale;August, Benjamin - FAS,;Mobolaji Omobowale;Maria Ayodele, (IITA)

Subject: Re: Your abstract submission for the Agroecology Conference 2019

Attachments: Invitation letter - Adeola.pdf; POSTER GUIDELINES.docx; A-125 AGUNLOYE AND ALA, INSECTICIDE SYNERGISTS revised.docx

Dear Team,

I would like to inform you that, happily, I submitted an abstract which has been accepted for the **'1st International Conference on Agroecology, Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems Conference: Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade'**. The conference holds from June 18th – 21st, 2019 at

equipment provided for our previous extension studies in our laboratory in the Department of Zoology, UI. We have USAID/ USDA to thank for this.

I just got the acceptance letter and I am currently trying to get funds to attend the conference. Available conference attendance funding in UI that came to my notice is only for conferences between October and December 2019. I am therefore still searching for conference sponsorship.

Best regards,

Adeola A. Ala (PhD)

Lecturer/ Consultant

Entomology and Animal Physiology

Department of Zoology

University of Ibadan

Cell: (b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Agroecology Conference** <agroecologyconference@biovisionafrica.org>

Date: Thu, 23 May 2019 at 08:52

Subject: Your abstract submission for the Agroecology Conference 2019

To: @gmail.com <@gmail.com>

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Dear Adeola A. Ala,

The Abstracts Review Committee of the **1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems Conference: Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade** is pleased to inform you that your abstract has been accepted for poster presentation.

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For more details, on next steps of action, find attached the following documents: An invitation letter to the conference, reviewers' comments for your inclusion and poster guidelines.

Kindly re-submit your abstract, with revisions, latest by May 26th to facilitate the preparation of the Book of Abstracts.

We request you to acknowledge receipt of this email and to confirm your participation in the conference as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Programmes and Abstract Review Committee

From: Sage-EL, Kevin L

Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 3:01 AM

To: @aber.ac.uk

(b) (6)

CC: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC; Wray-Cahen, Diane - FAS, Washington, DC; Kamau, Carol - FAS, Nairobi, KEN

Subject: Seeking Your Interest and Ability to Speak in Nairobi, Kenya at an Open Forum on

Biotechnology **Attachments:** Programme Pesticide Politics in Africa.pdf;

cfp_conference_pesticide_politics_final_compressed.pdf; World Food Preservation Center - MediaWiki.pdf;

Agricultural Biotechnology Annual_Nairobi_Kenya_2-28-2019.pdf

Dear Professor Huw Jones,

Hello, my name is Kevin Sage-EL. I work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in an overseas capacity in Kenya with one of the Department's agencies, the [Foreign Agricultural Service](#) (FAS). Two of my colleagues at FAS, Shoshana Griffith and Diane Wray Cahen, both copied here thought of you for our quest to have a speaker from Europe to provide a presentation in an open forum format here in Nairobi, Kenya. My office and FAS in general is trying to guide Kenya toward its own goal to revitalize its textile industry using Bt. Cotton. Open field trials will be completed by August 2019 and then commercialization should be the next step. However, the main hurdle is the Ban on GMO imports that has been in place since 2012, not all done based on any sound science. We have some political support now including some parliamentarians, governors, a Principal Secretary for Agriculture and another one for Trade and Industry but we still have the NGOs here trying to derail the technology in Kenya and the region, as you can see from the attachments. Kenya already has a policy framework in place as you will see from the attachments but it hasn't stopped a few government officials from not being supportive.

We were planning for this forum in June of this year. We can be flexible somewhat on your own schedule. We imagine three working days that would include the main forum presentation, a meeting with Kenyan government officials, a less formal presentation at the Embassy, and some media opportunities and lastly engagements with the research community at a couple of the universities here. We can discuss the focus of your talks based on what you normally deal with as well.

Shoshana Griffith will likely follow up with this message to you.

Let me know if you have further questions and certainly we can plan for a phone

call. Sincerely,

Kevin

Kevin L. Sage-EL
Agricultural Counselor
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Rwanda, Burundi and
the East African Community

Office of Agricultural Affairs, U.S.Embassy, Nairobi
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

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Email: Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov

2020-FAS-05877-F

From: KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043]

Sent: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 3:07 AM

To: Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS;KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043];Karembu
margaret;ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com;'ISAAA Staff';'Muchiri, Nancy (AATF)';'Maloba

(b) (6)
Waturu'; @gmail.com;'Kiplagat, Betty';'Simon Gichuki';'Douglas Miano';'Aghan Daniel';'LEMGO,
(b) (6)
GODWIN [AG/6043]';'Walter Langat'
CC: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS
Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Indeed, getting such big guns to the conference is indicative of a well-oiled team. I doubt the targeted audience will be up to speed and aware of the status of the discredited research (an opportunity perhaps to dispel the myths and lies ☺)

Plans for this seem to have commenced in 2018. The choice for Nairobi appears well calculated going by the recent progress in biotech and government statements suggesting a change in political tonality notably Oct 20th 2018 and in some cases before. Clearly they must have been following keenly what is happening including the varied successes in Kenya.

Whereas we may not know their long range plans and strategy, what we may not dismiss is their ability to disrupt and cast doubts which could resonate with certain influencer, policy and political quarters at this delicate time.

We need to map out our approach well and sustain the momentum including pre-emptive engagements. The meeting suggested by the team provides a good starting point.

Jimmy Kiberu
Corporate Engagement Lead - Africa



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From: Sage-EL, Kevin L [mailto:Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:46 AM
To: KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043] @bayer.com>; Karembu margaret <@isaaa.org>;
(b) (6) (b) (6)
ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com; 'ISAAA Staff' <africenterstaff@isaaa.org>; 'Muchiri, Nancy (AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Maloba Nangayo' <@aatf-africa.org>; @ku.ac.ke; 'Kyetere, Denis
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)
(AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Mutero Ngure' <@gmail.com>; Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi)
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@pioneer.com>; 'Simon Gichuki' <@gmail.com>; 'Douglas Miano' <@yahoo.com>;

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

'Aghan Daniel' <@afsta.org>; 'LEMGO, GODWIN [AG/6043]' <@bayer.com>; 'Walter Langat' (b) (6)
<@gmail.com>

Cc: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Jimmy,

So it looks like the anti's have acquired big funding from someone and bringing Seralini with his outdated and discredited research.

Do you think these anti-GMO folks will succeed in meeting with Kenyan government officials? At

least we have time to do some outreach efforts before this event.

Kevin

Kevin L. Sage-EL
Agricultural Counselor
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Rwanda, Burundi and
the East African Community

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00621 Nairobi, Kenya,

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(b) (6)

From: KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043] <@bayer.com>

(b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:58 AM

To: Karembu margaret <@isaaa.org>; ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com; 'ISAAA Staff'

(b) (6)

<africenterstaff@isaaa.org>; 'Muchiri, Nancy (AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Maloba Nangayo' <[\(b\) \(6\) \(b\) \(6\)](mailto:@aatf</p></div><div data-bbox=)

africa.org>; @ku.ac.ke; 'Kyetere, Denis (AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Mutero Ngunire'

(b) (6) (b) (6)

<@gmail.com>; Sage-EL, Kevin L <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>; Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi)

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<Carol.Kamau@fas.usda.gov>; 'Charles Waturu' <@gmail.com>; 'KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043]'

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<@gmail.com>; 'Douglas Miano' <@yahoo.com>; 'Aghan Daniel' <@afsta.org>; 'LEMGO,

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GODWIN [AG/6043]' <@bayer.com>; 'Walter Langat' <@gmail.com>

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

draw attention if you asked!

But perhaps a meeting with multi-stakeholders for us to discuss and plan mitigation strategies would be in order.

24 of 86
2020-FAS-05877-F

Jimmy Kiberu

Corporate Engagement Lead - Africa

////////////////////

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From: Karembu margaret [[mailto: @isaaa.org](mailto:@isaaa.org)]

(b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:47 AM

To: ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com; 'ISAAA Staff' <africenterstaff@isaaa.org>; 'Muchiri, Nancy (AATF)' [@aatf-africa.org](#); 'Maloba Nangayo' <@aatf-africa.org>; [@ku.ac.ke](http://ku.ac.ke); 'Kyetere, Denis

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(AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Mutero Ngure' <@gmail.com>; 'Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS' <Kevin.Sage

(b) (6) (b) (6)

EL@fas.usda.gov>; 'Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi)' <Carol.Kamau@fas.usda.gov>; 'Charles Waturu' <

@gmail.com>; 'KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043]' @bayer.com>;

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@gmail.com; 'Kiplagat, Betty' @pioneer.com>; 'Simon Gichuki' <@gmail.com>;

(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) 'Douglas Miano' <@yahoo.com>; 'Aghan Daniel' <@afsta.org>; 'LEMGO, GODWIN

[AG/6043]'

(b) (6) (b) (6)

@bayer.com>; 'Walter Langat' <@gmail.com>

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Morning colleagues,

In case you haven't seen this - <https://www.worldfoodpreservationcenterpesticidecongress.com/>

The list of anti-GMO speakers **including Seralini, Hans Herren etc.** and sponsors of this conference: ***1st All Africa Congress on Synthetic Pesticides, Environment, Human and Animal Health*** in Nairobi in June is a big concern and we need to strategize. Holding it in Kenya at this time will be very disruptive..

Any thoughts?

Thanks and regards,
Margaret

Margaret Karembu, PhD
Director, ISAAA AfriCenter/Chair, OFAB-Kenya/African Women for Biosciences
ILRI Campus, Old Naivasha Road
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25 of 86
2020-FAS-05877-F

From: Okoth, Suleiman (AATF)
Sent: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 3:28 AM
To: Karembu margaret;Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS;'KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043]';ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com;'ISAAA Staff';Muchiri, Nancy (AATF);Nangayo, Francis (AATF) @ku.ac.ke;Kyetere, Denis (AATF);'Mutero Ngire';Kamau, Carol - FAS;'Charles (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Waturu'; @gmail.com;'Kiplagat, Betty';'Simon Gichuki';'Douglas Miano';'Aghan Daniel';'LEMGO, GODWIN [AG/6043]';'Walter Langat'
CC: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS
Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Dear Colleagues,

I believe we can assemble credible scientists who can give factual information on the subject (with a focus on contribution of agricultural biotechnology) if they can be accepted as key speakers to counter the misinformation.

This can be an option if the conference is not a “closed-door” event.

Regards,

Suleiman

Suleiman Okoth | Programme Officer - OFAB

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From: ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com <ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com> **On Behalf Of** Karembu margaret

Sent: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 11:16 AM

To: 'Sage-EL, Kevin L' <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>; 'KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043]' <@bayer.com>;
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ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com; 'ISAAA Staff' <africenterstaff@isaaa.org>; Muchiri, Nancy (AATF) @aatf-africa.org>; Nangayo, Francis (AATF) <@aatf-africa.org>; @ku.ac.ke; Kyetere,
(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6) Denis (AATF) @aatf-africa.org>; 'Mutero Ngure' <@gmail.com>; 'Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi)'
(b) (6) (b) (6)

26 of 86
2020-FAS-05877-F

<Carol.Kamau@fas.usda.gov>; 'Charles Waturu' <@gmail.com>; @gmail.com; 'Kiplagat, Betty'
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@pioneer.com>; 'Simon Gichuki' <@gmail.com>; 'Douglas Miano' <@yahoo.com>;

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<@gmail.com>

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Cc: 'Griffith, Shoshana - FAS' <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Mmmh..see attached photo I just came across...so to answer Kevin's question whether these guys will meet up with Government officials, UNFORTUNATELY they already have!!!

I agree on need to strategize and be there too! PLUS, a courtesy meeting with CS Health where Seralini issue can be brought up!

From: Sage-EL, Kevin L <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 10:46 AM

To: KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043] <@bayer.com>; Karembu margaret <@isaaa.org>;

(b) (6) (b) (6)

ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com; 'ISAAA Staff' <africenterstaff@isaaa.org>; 'Muchiri, Nancy (AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Maloba Nangayo' <@aatf-africa.org>; @ku.ac.ke; 'Kyetere, Denis

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(AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Mutero Ngure' <@gmail.com>; Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi)

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<Carol.Kamau@fas.usda.gov>; 'Charles Waturu' <@gmail.com>; @gmail.com; 'Kiplagat, Betty'

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<@gmail.com>

(b) (6)

Cc: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Jimmy,

So it looks like the anti's have acquired big funding from someone and bringing Seralini with his outdated and discredited research.

Do you think these anti-GMO folks will succeed in meeting with Kenyan government officials? At

least we have time to do some outreach efforts before this event.

Kevin L. Sage-EL
Agricultural Counselor
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

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Email: Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov

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2020-FAS-05877-F

From: KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043] @bayer.com>

(b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:58 AM

To: Karembu margaret <@isaaa.org>; ofabkenyapcmembers@googlegroups.com; 'ISAAA Staff'

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<africenterstaff@isaaa.org>; 'Muchiri, Nancy (AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Maloba Nangayo' [\(b\) \(6\) \(b\) \(6\)](mailto:@aatf</p></div><div data-bbox=)

africa.org>; @ku.ac.ke; 'Kyetere, Denis (AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Mutero Ngunire'

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<@gmail.com>; Sage-EL, Kevin L <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>; Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi)

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(b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

GODWIN [AG/6043] @bayer.com>; 'Walter Langat' <@gmail.com>

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Hi Margaret – Indeed this is on the radar. Cleverly disguised (venue choice, title, speakers etc) not to draw attention if you asked!

But perhaps a meeting with multi-stakeholders for us to discuss and plan mitigation strategies would be in order.

Jimmy Kiberu
Corporate Engagement Lead - Africa

//////////

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(AATF)' <@aatf-africa.org>; 'Mutero Ngure' <@gmail.com>; 'Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS' <[\(b\) \(6\) \(b\) \(6\)](mailto:Kevin.Sage</p></div>
<div data-bbox=)

EL@fas.usda.gov>; 'Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi)' <Carol.Kamau@fas.usda.gov>; 'Charles Waturu'

@gmail.com>; 'KIBERU, JIMMY MULINDE [AG/6043]' @bayer.com>;

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@gmail.com; 'Kiplagat, Betty' @pioneer.com>; 'Simon Gichuki' <@gmail.com>;

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[AG/6043]'

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<@bayer.com>; 'Walter Langat' @gmail.com>

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Morning colleagues,

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2020-FAS-05877-F

The list of anti-GMO speakers **including Seralini, Hans Herren etc.**..and sponsors of this conference: ***1st All Africa Congress on Synthetic Pesticides, Environment, Human and Animal Health*** in Nairobi in June is a big concern and we need to strategize. Holding it in Kenya at this time will be very disruptive..

Any thoughts?

Thanks and regards,

Margaret

.....
Margaret Karembu, PhD
Director, ISAAA AfriCenter/Chair, OFAB-Kenya/African Women for Biosciences
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For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>.

29 of 86
2020-FAS-05877-F

From: Bhagirath Choudhary

Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 1:01 AM

To: Sage-EL, Kevin - FAS

CC: Kamau, Carol - FAS

Subject: RE: ALERT - Seralini et al listed as speaker for the AFR Pesticide Conference in Nairobi in June 2019 at Safari park

Dear Kevin

Thanks for your email. Seralini and group can cause heavy damage and reversed the gain achieved till now.

I suggest following approach based on my experience of dealing with Seralini in India on GM mustard: 1). Organize visits of key people from ministry of health and executive office (those who have reservation on Bt cotton) to 2nd NPT trials and showcase the technology and benefits

2). Organize interaction of Bt cotton experts with key stakeholders (I can fly key Bt cotton experts from India) 3).

Organize media program with Bt cotton experts

4). Develop two pagers on Seralini-discrediting him on the day he visits Kenya so that we can neutralize the negative messaging. We need to also organize press conference on Bt cotton and its benefits on same day of Seralini's press conference

5). Open invitation to Seralini to visit Bt cotton NPT trial in Kenya

Your thoughts

Regards

Bhagirath

From: Sage-EL, Kevin L [mailto:Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 3:59 PM

To: Bhagirath Choudhary @sabc.asia>

(b) (6)

Cc: Kamau, Carol N (FAS Nairobi) <Carol.Kamau@fas.usda.gov>

Hi Bhagirath,

Looks like the ant-GMO groups are putting together big forces to halt progress in Kenya.

In case you haven't seen this - <https://www.worldfoodpreservationcenterpesticidecongress.com/>

Even Seralini is coming. It is supposed to take place in June. So I think we need to do some serious outreach before then.

Kevin

Kevin L. Sage-EL
Agricultural Counselor
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Rwanda, Burundi and
the East African Community

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P. O. Box 606 Village Market, 00621 Nairobi, Kenya,

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From: Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 3:51 PM
To: Sandahl, Jason - FAS, Hood River, OR
Subject: RE: [FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)]

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Julie

From: Sandahl, Jason - FAS
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 2:17 PM
To: Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: [FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)]

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Another plan...I'm thinking Jason

***** Jason

Sandahl | Senior Program Manager, Science & Technology Capacity Building Branch | Trade and Scientific Capacity Building Division | Office of Capacity Building and Development | Foreign Agricultural Service | U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Rm 3840-S | Washington, DC 20250 | | Jason.Sandahl@usda.gov

(b) (6)

From: Chao, Julie - FAS
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 10:42 AM
To: Sandahl, Jason - FAS <Jason.Sandahl@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: FW: [FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)]

(b)(5) DPP

From: Jay Byrne @v-fluence.com
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:14 AM
To: Chao, Julie - FAS <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>; Griffith, Shoshana - FAS <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>; Stacey.Peckins <Stacey.Peckins@fas.usda.gov>; Powell, Tracy - ARS <tpowell@usaid.gov>
Cc: Joshua Gilder @gmail.com

(b) (6)

Following up on our meeting last year to stay in touch on emerging topics, I thought this would be of interest in case you missed this in the recent Bonus Eventus news reports. Feel free to reach out if you'd like to have a call and we can answer any questions you may have.

- **Pesticide Politics in Africa**, 29-31 May 2019, TPRI Arusha, Tanzania
- **1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa: Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling Up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade** 18-21 June 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

Just an updated on the previously shared **All Africa Congress on Pesticides & Agroecology being held in Nairobi in June**. We've also been tracking a related (theme at least) French-sponsored **Pesticides Politics in Africa** event occurring in Tanzania at the end of May. You can follow our issues tracking of these events here:

<https://monitoring.bonuseventus.org/tag/all-africa-pesticides-congress-2019/>

While the French Tanzania conference organizers have prior ties to Seralini, CRIIGEN and the anti-GMO agroecology promoting groups coordinating the Nairobi event, we'd not seen any updates to their program/plans to show they were formally linked. However, **recently Greenpeace, IPEN and other EU activists started promoting this TZ event via social media** and the latest agenda ([posted by a Greenpeace-linked UK researcher](#)) shows that the **Pesticide Action Network EU & AFR** will be prominently featured at this conference. Also worth noting is the **prominent role being played by the French Government**, as amplified via a recent Tweet from their TZ embassy:

<https://twitter.com/FranceTanzania/status/1112592885399076864>
[France in Tanzania Verified account @FranceTanzania Mar 31](#)

The Cooperation section of the Embassy met professors of the [@muhimbiliuniver](#) of Health and Allied Sciences to prepare the conference on **pesticides politics in Africa** in [#Arusha](#) from the 29th to the 31st May.

It appears a key organizer from France is **Nathalie Jas** with the [French National Institute for Agricultural Research | INRA · Institut de recherche interdisciplinaire de recherche en sciences sociales \(IRISSO\)](#). Like the All Africa Congress in Nairobi, this will be a very biased, one-sided, negative attack on pesticide use and likely include some conflation with GMOs. Similarly, it will be presenting an agroecology, organic alternative. The Tanzania event (background attached) appears to be heavily French influenced and led, while the Nairobi event has U.S., EU, and Swiss sponsors/coordinators with EU and FAO participants.

As such, it's likely Seralini and similar misleading content/claims will be incorporated/referenced in Tanzania now as well as Kenya events. Note the listed sponsors (attached and below), as this appears to be a largely French-led (political, socio-economic/academic event). It's themes are strongly linked to the Nairobi agroecology event, but we do not see significant stakeholder/participant overlap in their published materials (yet).

- **Pesticide politics in Africa. 29th-31st May 2019, Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI), Arusha, Tanzania.**

Event: TPRI with French government and research agencies to host Pesticide Politics in Africa Conference in Arusha, TZ May 29-31; seeks European-African scholar collaboration to address links to economic boom in Africa to alleged increase in diseases linked to pesticide pollution and seeks alternative, organic production practices January 28, 2019
Content Type: Stakeholder **Source:** Institut de Recherche Interdisciplinaire Sur Les Enjeux Sociaux Sciences Sociales, Politiques Sante (IRIS)

Stakeholder: Government **Region:** Europe **Favorability:** Negative

URL: <http://iris.ehess.fr/index.php?4187>

Conference 29th-31st May 2019, Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI), Arusha, Tanzania
Pesticide Politics in Africa

[CfP > Download](#); [AAC > Télécharger](#)

Conference 29th-31st May 2019, Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI), Arusha, Tanzania The current **economic boom in many sub-Saharan countries is accompanied by an unprecedented increase in noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) due to industrial pollution, including pesticides**. While local and international mobilizations call for more stringent pesticide control measures, African governments often refrain from adopting and enforcing strict regulations – considered as potential obstacles to “development”. This interdisciplinary conference aims at laying the foundations for a long-term scientific cooperation between African and European scholars on the management of pesticide-related occupational and environmental health hazards in Africa. It aims at exploring the trade-offs between production and prevention that underlie the expansion of chemical-intensive agriculture on the continent, to understand the relations between technique, knowledge and power that condition the inclusion of African populations in the globalized economy, and to grasp the resulting health and environmental inequalities. As in other areas with intensive use and poor regulation and/or implementation, pesticide-related health risks are exacerbated in Africa by the inadequacy of regulatory frameworks and the weakness, or inexistence, of surveillance and control systems. As a result, the import, production, trade and use of pesticides take place without the legal safeguards and institutional counterweights ensuring that public health concerns receive adequate attention in a political context where “development”, narrowly defined as economic growth, and “food security”, with a single dominant focus on increased agricultural production, are the overriding priorities. Facing strong activism denouncing the adverse effects of industrial agriculture and corporate influence over pesticide-related public policy making, some European governments have started to backpedal at home – at least in their declarations of political intent. African governments and Western development agencies are less challenged, however, when – backed by private foundations and transnational corporations– they are calling for an “African Green Revolution”, still essentially based on the much-contested model of chemical-intensive agriculture, with pesticides as the cornerstone. In parallel, foreign agro-companies and governments are making large-scale land acquisitions in a new “scramble for Africa”, transforming the continent into the new frontier of global agro-industrial expansion.

This conference develops upon the observation that the chemical-based intensification of agricultural production in sub-Saharan Africa, which is likely to be aggravated by climate change, bears new occupational and environmental health hazards, which are exacerbated by the use of highly toxic pesticides (often banned in Europe), by informal trade, by dysfunctional control systems, by lack of access to risk information, by the inexistence of protective gear appropriate for tropical climates, and by the diversity of exposed populations ($\approx 80\%$ of the active population has an agricultural activity – mostly on family farms, potentially exposing vulnerable populations such as pregnant women and children). As rapid population growth and trade liberalization boost domestic and international demands, these hazards confront African governments with technically and politically intricate regulatory and public policy choices. While international donors, industry players and environmentalist groups try to influence pesticide legislation and its implementation, the underlying trade-offs between productive and preventive considerations become a major political stake, and the way these trade-offs are formulated becomes an important field of scientific enquiry.

We aim at bringing together researchers from various backgrounds in human and social sciences, other sciences with an interest in public health and public policy, or environmental and health exposures, as well as members of administrations or NGOs involved in pesticide regulation who are eager to reflect on what may be done to better assess and manage pesticide-related detrimental health effects.

We welcome proposals along the following themes:

1. Producing knowledge on pesticide exposures and their health effects

Concerned about pesticide-induced hazards, researchers, health practitioners, public officials, activists and simply concerned citizens in many regions of Africa have started to gather information and produce knowledge on pesticide exposures and their suspected effects on human health. How do these players go about this and what forms of expert and/or lay knowledge do they produce: counting cases of possibly pesticide-related health conditions, registration of acute poisoning cases, forms of popular epidemiology, etc.? Do they engage in studying the toxicity of the compounds sold in African countries? What difficulties do these players face in objectivizing the phenomena they attempt to explore? Whom are information and knowledge produced for? Which alliances do information and knowledge producers engage in and, if any, which strategies of mobilization do they adopt? To what extent and how do they attempt (and possibly succeed) to draw attention to their findings, either in discreet but possibly influential spaces or in more public arenas, and with which effects? What is the political economy of attention to occupational health, environmental health, and environmental aspects of pesticide exposures? This focus welcomes presentations both by

practices.

2. Regulatory dimensions: national and international regimes for pesticide regulation and control The various processes leading to the international conventions regulating the safety of international pesticide trade have been studied in much detail, with a special focus on the **Rotterdam Convention and its Prior Informed Consent (PIC) mechanism**. However, far less is known about the actual implementation of these international agreements and the PIC in African countries. Do these international agreements and mechanisms influence domestic authorization processes? If so, in which ways? Furthermore, little is known on how pesticides are actually authorized in African Countries. Given many regulatory authorities' limited toxicological capacities, how are risk assessments carried out, and by whom? How do authorities reach the decision to register a specific pesticide – especially if it is banned elsewhere? Who are the actors involved in defining pesticide regulation? How do they interact, with which rationales? How are economic, social and safety dimensions confronted and/or articulated? Do pro-pesticide economic actors adopt common strategies or are they competing, with specific interests and claims? How do other national or international actors (administrations, international organizations, NGOs, foundations, etc.) address pesticide regulation? What are their claims and how do they promote them? Concerning regulatory enforcement, how are data on pesticide trade and uses collected? What is known about the magnitude of illegal trade of unregistered, banned or obsolete pesticides? How are borders controlled? What is the political economy of non-enforcement? Lastly, what is the role of private standards (or soft law) in the management of pesticides' detrimental effects?

3. Coping with contamination: pesticides and their effects in everyday life

Populations exposed to pesticides or other toxic chemicals – especially if they have low education – are often presented as unaware of the dangers they face and the risks they take. It is then assumed that safety education would contribute to reducing harm and protecting these populations. Yet, various bodies of work have shown that even untrained people are often aware of the dangers they face and develop preventive or coping strategies. Other bodies of work have also shown that top-down generalist prescriptions may not be efficient – especially if not adapted to local conditions (environmental, technical, economic, etc.). We expect contributions that address both sets of issues: 1) How do (potentially) affected populations apprehend pesticide exposures and their effects? How do they identify and characterize exposures and how do they deal with the uncertainty concerning the resulting hazards? Which preventive or curative actions do they adopt? How does the awareness to live and work in a contaminated area alter the affected populations' relations with political institutions and with their natural environment? 2) How – and with whom – can effective preventive interventions and arrangements be developed and implemented? How to best involve exposed populations? How can one avoid the transfer of responsibility to the victims that is often implicit in calls for an improved “risk culture”?

4. The political economy of pesticide use (and its alternatives): the industrialization of agriculture in Africa Postulating that the magnitude and modalities of pesticide use are strongly influenced by the structures of agricultural production and distribution, this focus proposes to explore the ways in which national and international agricultural policies and market structures affect the use of agrochemicals in various contexts. Globally and locally, how do producers of agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides...) attempt to exert influence on regulators, farmers and other agricultural players? While its influence remains under-researched and often invisible, what role does agribusiness play in the conception and promotion of agricultural development projects/corridors? How do agri-food companies, as buyers of produce and structuring agents of value chains, shape modes of agricultural production – and thus pesticide use? In which ways is the production and uptake of a certain type of agronomical knowledge (at the expense of other types) conditioned by these political and economic considerations? More generally, to what extent do dominant policy frames – such as “economic growth” or “food security” – limit the resonance of considerations concerning food quality and the safety of production processes? How does this affect the legitimacy of mobilisations against pesticide use? Which factors condition the emergence of such mobilisations – or their absence? Lastly, but importantly, **this focus strongly welcomes presentations on experiences of alternative (organic or less pesticide-intensive) modes of production and distribution**. Drawing on individual examples, which political, social and economic factors condition the success or failure of these alternative approaches – and to what extent do they remain local forms of resistance (for instance, based on niche markets) or do they attempt to engage more structural transformations towards more sustainable agricultural systems?

The conference will be held from **29th to 31st May 2019 at the Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI) in Arusha, Tanzania.**

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2020-FAS-05877-F

Contributions are accepted in English or French. Proposals should not exceed 500 words, include a brief presentation of the author(s), contact information of the corresponding author, and be sent to pesticidepolitics@gmail.com by **5 January 2019 at the latest**. Authors will be informed of the selection (or reject) of their abstracts by 20 January 2019. Authors of selected proposals are expected to share a *draft* manuscript of their contribution by 30 April 2019, which will be pre-circulated to discussants only.

We may cover travel expenses in accordance to the *limited* budget of the conference. Priority will be given to African and early-career scholars.

- **Moritz Hunsmann**, associate researcher in sociology, French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Paris, France
- **Nathalie Jas**, associate researcher in history and science and technology studies, French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Paris, France
- **Eliana Lekei**, registrar of pesticides, Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI), Arusha, Tanzania • **Vera Ngowi**, senior lecturer in occupational and environmental health, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- **Samuel Pinaud**, associate professor in sociology, Paris Dauphine University, France

Scientific Committee

- **Malcom Ferdinand**, associate researcher in sociology, French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Paris, France
- **Alain Garrigou**, professor in ergonomics, Bordeaux University, France
- **Sylvain Ilboudo**, associate researcher in toxicology, National Center for Scientific and Technological Research (CNRST), Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- **Kees Jansen**, associate professor in political ecology and agrarian studies, Wageningen University, Netherlands • **Leslie London**, professor in public health, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- **Jessie Luna**, assistant professor in sociology, Colorado State University, USA
- **Marie-Emmanuelle Pommerolle**, associate professor in political science, Paris 1 – Panthéon Sorbonne University, Paris, France
- **Andrea Rother**, professor in sociology, University of Cape Town, South Africa

A télécharger :

- [CFP – Conference Pesticide Politics in Africa \(510k\)](#)
- [AAC > Pesticides et politique\(s\) en Afrique \(231k\)](#)

A consulter :

- [AAA/CFP > Le travail en Éthiopie : rationalisation, dominations, mobilisations/ Work in Ethiopia: Rationalization, Dominance and Mobilizations – 15 mai 2019](#)
- [AAC > Demain, le printemps : Pratiques d’imagination et d’anticipation dans le monde arabe – 15 mars 2019](#) • [CFP > Pesticide Politics in Africa – 10 January 2019](#)
- [AAC > Transformations du travail, transformations des masculinités ? > 30 novembre 2018](#) • [AAC > Doctoriales de l’Iris – 29 octobre 2018](#)
- [AAC > Naturalisation, déterminisme biologique et sciences sociales : race, sexe et comportements – 15 septembre 2018](#)
- [AAC > Saisir le transnational dans les mondes arabes contemporains. Objets, méthodes et terrains – 15 septembre 2018](#)
- [AAC > Biennale d’Ethnographie de l’EHESS – 18 mai 2018](#)
- [AAC > Actualité des recherches sur l’adolescence – 20 mai 2018](#)
- [AAC > L’émigration-immigration comme “fait social total”. Retours sur les travaux et la pensée d’Abdelmalek Sayad – 10 mai 2018](#)
- [Appel à communication > Penser l’articulation des rapports sociaux de sexe, de classe et de race en sociologie des arts et de la culture – 15 mai 2018](#)
- [AAC > Décoloniser l’Économie ? Décoloniser la pensée ? – 6 mars 2018](#)
- [AAC > Identité et identification par l’ADN : enjeux sociaux des usages non médicaux des analyses génétiques – 1er mars 2018](#)
- [AAC > Famille et parenté : permanences, transformations, traitements – 15 février 2018](#) 36 of 86

- [AAC > L'optimisation de soi – 15 janvier 2018](#)
- [AAC > Les institutions pénales saisies par les gouverné.e.s – 15 janvier 2018](#)
- [AAC > Politiques de la marge. Productions et Usages – 15 janvier 2018](#)
- [AAC > Les destinataires du travail social : résistances, adhésions et tactiques face aux normes de genre – 20 décembre 2017](#)
- [AAC > L'interdisciplinarité : défis méthodologiques et enjeux de positionnement pour le jeune chercheur – 25 septembre 2017](#)
- [AAC > Drogues et politiques dans les Amériques. De la “guerre à la drogue” à la régulation de la production, du commerce et des usages des psychotropes – 15 octobre 2017](#)
- [AAC > Enquêter sur la bienfaisance. Approches comparatives des pratiques du bien – 20 septembre 2017](#) • [AAC > La mondialisation de la santé : savoirs, pratiques, politiques – 11 septembre 2017](#) • [AAC > Genre et classes populaires au travail. Quelles relations entre les sexes dans le salariat subalterne ? – 8 septembre 2017](#)
- [AAC > Genre et contraception : quelles \(r\)évolutions ? – 30 juin 2017](#)
- [AAC > Les subalternes, peuvent-elles/ils \(parler\) être écouté-e-s ? – 30 juin 2017](#)
- [Appel à contributions > “Catégorisations contemporaines du monde social” – 1er juin 2017](#) • [AAC > Le bien-être dans l'éducation : un objet de recherche pour les sciences humaines et sociales – 8 mars 2017](#)
- [AAC > Durkheim et la socialisation – 27 mai 2017](#)
- [AAC > Les subalternes, peuvent-elles/ils \(parler\) être écouté-e-s ? – 15 avril 2017](#)
- [AAC > Le bien-être dans l'éducation : un objet de recherche pour les sciences humaines et sociales](#) • [AAC > Masculinités et Santé > 15 avril 2016](#)
- [AAC > Les émotions dans les relations de soin et de service > 1er mars 2016](#)
- [AAC > Politiser, dépolitiser, repolitiser > 30 décembre 2015](#)
- [AAC > L'intervention sociale dans une perspective de genre > 15 décembre 2015](#)
- [AAC > Les sciences humaines et sociales face au foisonnement biographique – Innovations méthodologiques et diversité des approches > 30 novembre 2015](#)
- [AAC > Regards sur le médecin légiste, journée d'étude](#)
- [AAC : Les professions médicales. Des pratiques entre contraintes et liberté > 3 avril 2015](#) • [AAC : “Quand la pénibilité du travail s'invite à la maison”, revue Travail et Emploi](#)
- [AAC Un regard sur le changement à Cuba > 10 janvier 2015](#)
- [AAC : Sécurité et Environnement > 15 février 2015](#)
- [Être jeune chercheur ou chercheure aujourd'hui : quelles réalités ?](#)
- [Colloque international : Au cœur du vieillissement ? Regards croisés sur le corps](#)
- [Colloque international : L'altérité et l'identité à l'épreuve de la fluidité](#)
- [Atelier Ethnographier les mondes de l'aide internationale](#)
- [Étudiants africains en URSS et dans les autres pays de l'ancien bloc soviétique, 1960-1990. Entre histoires nationales et contexte international](#)
- [La production des subjectivités dans le domaine du cancer](#)
- [Santé-Précarité](#)
- [Sociologie des groupes professionnels](#)

https://twitter.com/ABalayannis/status/1121758360905441280

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE USE, REGULATION & HEALTH EFFECTS OF AGROCHEMICALS IN SUB-SAHARAN COUNTRIES

TUESDAY 28 MAY

9:00 - 9:30 / ARRIVAL
9:30 - 10:00 / OFFICIAL OPENING
10:00 - 10:45 WELCOME AND GENERAL INTRODUCTIONS
10:45 - 12:00 KEYNOTE 1: PESTICIDE-RELATED HEALTH EFFECTS IN TANZANIA: THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW
12:00 - 1:00 PM / LUNCH
1:00 - 1:30 PM PANEL 1: CHRONIC AND ACUTE POISONING...
2:00 - 2:30 PM PANEL 2: PESTICIDES AS PUBLIC PROBLEMS...
3:00 - 3:30 PM PANEL 3: CHRONIC AND ACUTE POISONING...
4:00 - 4:30 PM BREAK
5:00 - 5:30 PM PANEL 4: CHRONIC AND ACUTE POISONING...
6:00 - 6:30 PM PANEL 5: STRUGGLING WITH WITHRIFT AND AGAINST PESTICIDES STRATEGIES...
7:00 - 7:30 PM PANEL 6: THE POLITICAL POLICY OF PESTICIDE REGULATION AND CONTROL...
8:00 - 8:30 PM PANEL 7: THE POLITICAL POLICY OF PESTICIDE REGULATION AND CONTROL...
9:00 - 9:30 PM PANEL 8: THE POLITICAL POLICY OF PESTICIDE REGULATION AND CONTROL...

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY

9 AM - 12:00 AM
PANEL 2: PESTICIDES AS PUBLIC PROBLEMS OR NON-INDICER MATERIAL, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DIMENSIONS OF THEIR UNSUSTAINABILITY (I)
Between global circulation and national legacies. Inscriptions to the use of agrochemicals in African banana plantations (Senegal, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire)
Nicolas Fournier, IRD, CNRS, France
officially reclaims the historical heritage of pesticide research
Agnès Aouine, University of Bamako, United Kingdom
Pesticide use and perceptions of health and well-being in western Niger agricultural practices, toxic exposure and risk
Kilian Meiß, Leibniz University (Germany) and University of Oslo, Norway
12:00 AM - 1 PM / LUNCH
1 PM - 2:30 PM
PANEL 2: PESTICIDES AS PUBLIC PROBLEMS OR NON-INDICER MATERIAL, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DIMENSIONS OF THEIR UNSUSTAINABILITY (2)
Chemical Pollution, Toxic Exposure and Environmental Health in Tanzania
Ugo Mshamua, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Transdisciplinary evidence gathering and collaborative intervention design to tackle the pesticide safety & agroecology
Philip Koutsouris & Ruth Wessmann, Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag), Switzerland
2:30 PM - 3 PM / BREAK
3 PM - 5:00 PM
PANEL 3: PESTICIDES USES AND THEIR MOVING (I)
Characterization of pesticides and practices of organic actors in the cotton zone around the littoral of the Lake Malawi basin, Malawi
Suzanne Barthe, Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRISS/IRD), Burkina Faso
Pesticide use in Senegalese, cotton and public health in the city of Dakar
Alexandre Sarrasque, Pesticide Action Network Africa, Senegal
Understanding the social logic of pesticide use in Senegal (IRISS/IRD)
Sonia Thourou, Institut International d'Etudes de Santé, Côte d'Ivoire

THURSDAY 30 MAY

9 AM - 12:00 AM
PANEL 2: PESTICIDES USES AND THEIR MOVING (2)
New! Pesticide safety, tobacco and drivers in agroecology: agrochemical landscape
Eliane Zagari & Elise Anderson, Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies, Sweden
Pesticides and our children: safety, cultural and economic tradeoffs in Senegal
Christine Lundy, Colorado State University, United States of America
Agroecology and Pesticides: Investigating Development and Connections in the High Andes Mountains
Dachary Albrecht, Penn State University, United States of America
12:00 AM - 1:00 PM / BREAK
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM
KEYNOTE 2: THE ROLE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) IN PESTICIDE REGISTRATION: A CRITICAL APPROACH
Alain Garrigue, Université de Bordeaux, France
1:30 PM - 2 PM / LUNCH
2 PM - 2:30 PM
PANEL 4: THE POLITICAL POLICY OF PESTICIDE REGULATION AND CONTROL (I)
A holistic view of Pesticides Control, from the Market Regulator's Perspective
Claire Brugère, CIRAD University, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique, Senegal
Science and Pesticides: The Role of Regulatory Institutions in Regulating Pesticide Use
Jan Adrians, University of Bonn, Germany
2:30 PM - 4 PM / BREAK
4 PM - 5:00 PM
PANEL 4: THE POLITICAL POLICY OF PESTICIDE REGULATION AND CONTROL (2)
Pesticide policy in the context of pesticide regulation - a case study from Senegal
Sally Tschering, Stockholm University, Sweden
Pesticide management and control in Burkina Faso: the state of play
Dorothea Sarrasque, Direction de Régulation des Pesticides de la Santé (DRPS/IRD), Burkina Faso

FRIDAY 31 MAY

9 AM - 12:00 AM
KEYNOTE 3: EXPLORING CROSS-WHAT CAN KNOWLEDGE ON PESTICIDES IN AFRICA LEARN FROM SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH IN LATIN AMERICA?
Alexis Simon, Wageningen University, Netherlands
12:00 AM - 1:00 PM / BREAK
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
PANEL 5: STRUGGLING WITH WITHRIFT AND AGAINST PESTICIDES STRATEGIES IN FACING AGROECOLOGICAL AND THEIR INSTRUMENTAL EFFECTS (I)
Sharing of prevention measures to control occupational health risks related to pesticide use in agriculture, with contribution of four advisory services
Christine Laurent, IRISS-IRD, France
The institutionalization of organic farming in Senegal: what role for agricultural extension services?
Christine Laurent & Daniel A. Roumieu, Université de Bordeaux, France
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM / LUNCH
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM
PANEL 5: STRUGGLING WITH WITHRIFT AND AGAINST PESTICIDES STRATEGIES IN FACING AGROECOLOGICAL AND THEIR INSTRUMENTAL EFFECTS (2)
The institutionalization of organic control in Senegal and impact on project promoters facing conventional control services
Florence Gaudreau, Université Paris-Saclay, France
"New and urban-free zone": a citizen-based initiative to reduce emissions and drive policy changes in pesticide management legislation in South Africa
Sonia Barthe, Independent Researcher, South Africa
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM / SCIENTIFIC CONCLUSION (I)
Etienne Lebel, IRISS, Tanzania
5:00 PM - 6 PM / OFFICIAL CLOSING (I)
Official conference with simultaneous English -> French translation
A Conference in English, also conducted simultaneously in French -> English
Free entrance, obligatory registration (https://www.bonuseventus.org)
A dinner in Paris, Burkina Faso (https://www.bonuseventus.org)
Organizing Committee: Burkina Faso, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Tanzania, France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe

Analyst Note:

Other sponsors include: Nairobi IFRA, MUHAS, CNRS, PLS Research University, INRA, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI). Others amplifying this event include anti-pesticide NGO IPEN (https://ipen.org/site/calendar-events).

See also: https://monitoring.bonuseventus.org/2018/11/15/event-french-government-and-research-groups-to-help-sponsor-anti-pesticide-event-at-tpri-in-arusha-tz-may-2019/

Subject: Heads up: Africa pesticide & agroecology conferences scheduled for June in Nairobi officially merge

FYI - the organizers involved with the All Africa Pesticide Congress & Africa Agroecology events in Nairobi have issued a formal press release announcing they have merged the events. As noted, you can follow latest news and monitoring related to this here: https://monitoring.bonuseventus.org/tag/all-africa-pesticides-congress-2019/ with links to supplemental issues and stakeholder background research. This raises the issues of how inappropriate it is for the agroecology event being formally linked to and with the participation of the FAO...

News release: World Food Preservation Center announces partnership with Biovision Africa Trust, IFOAM and their Partners to organize "1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa," speakers include Hans Herren and Tyrone Hayes

by [World Food Preservation Center](#)

The “1st All Africa Synthetic Pesticide Congress” organized by the World Food Preservation Center LLC merges with the Eastern Africa conference on “Scaling up Agroecology and Ecological Organic Trade” organized by Biovision Africa Trust, IFOAM Organics International and their Partners to become the “1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa”.

The “1st All Africa Congress on Synthetic Pesticides, Environment, Human and Animal Health” has expanded its goals by the recognition of Agroecology as a means of combatting synthetic pesticide and fertilizers contamination in the African continent and ensuring actions towards true [sustainable agriculture and food systems](#). The “Agroecology and Ecological Organic Trade” equally see the need to address threats to [sustainable agriculture and food systems](#). The conference has attracted world leading scientists on both the impact of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers on the African people, their animals, and environment and advocates for Agroecology as a means of producing food without the need for synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. This rare consortium of leading world scientists, practitioners and other players will chart a course to substantially and sustainably reduce synthetic pesticide and fertilizer contamination in Africa. We invite you to participate in and contribute to this seminal event. <http://wix.to/ssAqAYQ> Among the keynote speakers at the conference are Professor Hans Herren, the first Swiss to receive the 1995 World Food Prize and the 2013 Right Livelihood Award (alternate Nobel Prize) for leading a major biological control effort. Also, Professor [Tyrone Hayes](#), UC Berkley, who has pioneered in establishing that the herbicide atrazine is an endocrine disruptor that demasculinizes and feminizes male frogs. Other keynote speakers at the congress are on the forefront of research on the impact of synthetic pesticides and GMOs on the health of humans, animals, and the environment. Also, world leading scientists will be speaking on regenerative agriculture and food sovereignty.

The “1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa: *Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling Up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade*” will be held at the Safari Park Hotel & Casino, Nairobi, Kenya on June 18-21, 2019.

[You can register here.](#)

CONTACTS:

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damudavi@biovisionafricatrust.org

About World Food Preservation Center:

To feed the world’s exploding population, we MUST save substantially more of the food that we already produce. Up until now we have invested a disproportionate amount of our resources in the production of food (95%) while only (5%) in the postharvest preservation of food. This has left us with tremendous postharvest “Skill Gaps” and “Technology Gaps” in developing countries. The World Food Preservation Center® LLC is filling these gaps by: (1) promoting the education (M.S. and Ph.D.) of young student/scientists from developing countries; (2) having young student/scientists from developing countries conduct research on much needed new postharvest technologies adaptable to their native countries; (3) organize continent-wide postharvest congresses and exhibitions for developing countries; (4) publish much needed new texts/reference books on postharvest technologies/methods for developing countries; and (5) develop a comprehensive database on all postharvest knowledge relative to developing countries with access portals for researchers, students, administrators, industry, businesses, and farmers.

About Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT):

Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) is a not-for-profit organization established in Kenya in 2009 by the Biovision Foundation for ecological development in Switzerland and supported by the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Nairobi. The Trust’s goal is to alleviate poverty and improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Kenya and other African countries through supporting dissemination of information and knowledge on appropriate technology to improve human, animal, plant, and environmental health. Agricultural output and food supply are however hindered

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by various environmental factors and lack of information and relevant training for the African smallholder farmers. Plant pests, for instance, are responsible for up to 80% of crop losses. Ecologically sustainable solutions are a practical alternative for African farmers to achieve good crop yields without relying on expensive chemical fertilizers and pesticides. What is lacking, however, are effective dissemination pathways to deliver relevant information to the farmers.

Analyst Note: [Regeneration International](#) syndicated the announcement.

Note: this also being promoted by OCA and other anti-GMO, anti-pesticide advocacy groups known for engaging in aggressive disinformation and smear campaigns against academics...

[East Africa agroecology conference as joint, “merged” events; notes speakers including Tyrone Hayes and Hans Herren will promote organic agriculture](#)

March 15, 2019 **Source:** Regeneration International | **Stakeholder:** NGO

Region: Africa | **Favorability:** Negative

URL: <https://regenerationinternational.org/2019/03/14/all-africa-synthetic-pesticide-congress-and-the-eastern-africa-conference-on-scaling-up-agroecology-and-ecological-organic-trade-mutually-merge/>

All Africa Synthetic Pesticide Congress and the Eastern Africa Conference on Scaling up Agroecology and Ecological Organic Trade Mutually Merge 03/14/2019/by World Food Preservation Center The “1st All Africa Synthetic Pesticide Congress” organized by the World Food Preservation Center merges with the Eastern Africa conference on “Scaling up Agroecology and Ecological Organic Trade” organized by Biovision Africa Trust, IFOAM Organics International...

I’ve included some supplemental background (below see various updates we’ve sent dating back to last year) regarding the upcoming **Biovision** sponsored agroecology scaling up organic event in AFR. As you know, this conference marries up with another EU **Biovision** supported anti-pesticide/anti-GMO event being held at the same location a week prior. The first event, with the same sponsors, will be much more blatantly anti-GMO, anti-pesticide specific, but will set the stage for the agroecology follow-on conference.

See analyst noted at bottom, but this conference is being linked to FAO efforts and includes FOA participants which seems inappropriate given this is a commercial trade promotion effort linked with major anti-GMO, anti-science NGOs like AFSA and PELUM who promote disinformation about food safety and food security issues and contribute to destabilizing regional politics...

Event: IFOAM, African Union hosting East Africa conference on scaling up agroecology to promote organic trade June 2019 in Nairobi; co-branded as part of FAO efforts to scale up agroecology and claims of improved health and nutrition

February 16, 2019 **Source:** Ecological Organic Agriculture Africa

Stakeholder: NGO **Region:** Africa

URL: <https://eoai-africa.org/agroecology-and-ecological-organic-trade/>

AGROECOLOGY AND ECOLOGICAL ORGANIC TRADE

EASTERN AFRICA CONFERENCE ON SCALING UP AGRO-ECOLOGY AND ECOLOGICAL ORGANIC TRADE

Event Date 25-27 June 2019

Venue Name: Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

An Action towards sustainable Health, Nutrition, Consumption and Trade

Under the overall objective of facilitating the establishment of truly sustainable food and agriculture systems in East Africa on grassroots, trade and policy levels.

The event aims at:

- Launching the FAO Scaling up Agroecology Initiatives in Eastern Africa
- Showcasing opportunities and potential of Ecological Organic domestic and regional trade in East Africa 40 of

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- Launching BIOFACH Africa brand for sustainable Business 2 Business (B2B) trade fair services

Detailed information about the event; [Agroecology Conference Nairobi 25-27 June 2019](#)

Analyst Note: This conference sponsored by Biovision (Hans Herren, Switzerland) coincides (immediately follows) with Biovision-sponsored African Congress on Pesticides (June 18-20) at same venue. Participants and speakers include representatives from the UN FAO. Noted donors and sponsors include: SSNC, SDC, Biovision CH, IFOAM OI/Sida, and BIOFACH (new commercial group to promote East African organic trade with EU). The Local organizing committee (LOC)- BvAT, [PELUM Kenya](#), KOAN, MOA-Kenya, Ministry of Trade (Export Processing Council). Regional organizing committee: KOAN, TOAM, ROAM, BOAM, NOGAMU, ISD, [Pelum Kenya](#), AFSA, AU, FiBL, FAO Rome and FAO Kenya office, AfrONet, RSC, CSC, OTEA, BvAT and [PELUM Kenya](#). Conference includes speakers and side events with anti-GMO, anti-pesticide activist groups including AFSA.

this congress and being associated with it), we've been **informed that both the African Development Bank and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) sponsors of this event have withdrawn their names and future support**(we do not know if prior funds provided/committed will remain). Other key supporters still remaining include the **BioVision** ([Hans Herren](#), Switzerland) and the **Organic Consumers Alliance** ([Peter Ogera Mokaya](#), Kenya). Local organizations participating (funding or other sponsorship details are not fully known – listed as “consortium members” responsible for the conference include:

- **University of Medical Sciences**, Ondo City, Nigeria ([Yemisi Jeff-Agboola](#) is featured speaker – see donor info below)
- **University of Nairobi** ([Rateemo Waya Michieka](#) promoted speaker)
- **UN FAO Pesticide Risk Reduction Office** for South/ East Africa, Zimbabwe ([Ivy Saunyama](#), Ag Officer is noted speaker)
- **Peregrine Fund** ([Darcy Ogada](#), leads Africa programs and is noted speaker) – PF gets major financial support from mainstream U.S. and EU conservation foundations

Other listed participants tout their funding from groups which would likely not support this conference, include:

- **Yemisi Jeff-Agboola, Nigeria.** [Conference profile](#) notes: “She is a Grant Recipient from many organisations.... a post-doctoral Fellow of the African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) a CGIAR Gender and Diversity programme sponsored by **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**, **USAID**, Agropolis Foundation, and the **Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)**... she been invited to conferences as a speaker and to some panel discussion meetings with organisations like Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Farm Journal Forum, where she was on a panel discussion with AG Kawamura, former Secretary of Agriculture of California, USA... Dr. Jeff-Agboola is the president and founder of an NGO “**Voice of Women in the Development of Agriculture**”. Currently, she is an **Acting Dean, Student Affairs at the University of Medical Sciences, Ondo City, Nigeria.**
- **Sunday Ekesi**, Director of Research and Partnerships at **ICIPE (International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology)**, Ethiopia -funding from USAID, Ford Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, European Union, BioVision Foundation, SIDA, SDC, UK AID, CIRAD, DuPont, etc...
- Other WFC listed university partners found here: <https://www.worldfoodpreservationcenter.com/universitiesinstitutes.html>

Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:55 PM

Subject: RE: Heads up: Updated info on AFR Pesticide Conference; with GMO elements included (speakers incl. Seralni, Huber, Leu, et al) scheduled for Nairobi in June

Update – the below noted “pesticides congress” website has [been updated](#) to add the following additional anti-GMO speakers:

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- **Million Belay**, Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (Ethiopia)
- **Peter Ogera Mokaya**, Organic Consumers Alliance (Kenya)
- **Ndeye Maimouna Diene**, Pesticide Action Network Africa (Senegal)

They are claiming support from respected local university partners and financial sponsorship from the African Development Bank and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 11:39 AM

FYI: African Pesticide Congress to raise questions about GMO safety and includes anti-GMO speakers in **Nairobi June 18- 20, 2019**

Given the speakers listed and topics, this will likely get significant local and regional AFR media attention. *(Note: this has been shared with CLI and some other industry stakeholders; however, you may want to note that USAID, AGRA and Rockefeller*

We have been tracking and reporting on this noted event (see: <https://monitoring.bonuseventus.org/tag/all-africa-pesticides-congress-2019/>) since February 2018 (**summary of articles/reports attached**). This coincides with our reported analysis on the rising trend of pesticide advocacy in Africa since 2017 when we first started seeing the local anti-GMO groups following suit with their U.S. and EU partners in conflating and shifting foci to pesticides from GMOs. Specific to the African Pesticide Congress campaign, our first report in February 2018 suggested this event would be held in October 2018 in Nigeria with the support of IITA (part of the CGIAR system). If you recall, we shared a specific alert about that info with local partners at the time; about a month later that event appeared to have fallen apart and later the event was rescheduled for 2019 without CGIAR support.

There is a profile (attached) on the group behind this linked in the BE stakeholder wiki and updated here: [https://stakeholders.bonuseventus.org/index.php?title=World Food Preservation Center](https://stakeholders.bonuseventus.org/index.php?title=World+Food+Preservation+Center). As previously noted, we have seen a major increase in anti-pesticide content and foci from advocacy groups in Africa. Bees/pollinators are one intersection point here; however, health issues like cancer, sterility and birth defects appear to be the primary (and most motivational) theme pushed by local activists (mainly directed and funded by EU and US NGOs and government development agencies) in Africa. They are conflating pesticides with their ongoing anti GMO advocacy and shifting much of that attention to attacks more narrowly focused on synthetic crop protection with support from very well-healed groups like the [AgroEcology Fund](#) and other US & EU donors.

ICYMI from last November snapshot report

Subject: Heads up: More evidence anti-GMO crowd seeking to conflate pesticide issues and expand health fear advocacy campaigns in Africa (now via World Food Preservation Centre, LLC)

The [World Food Preservation Center LLC](#) is a for-profit which promotes itself as an academic coalition facilitator with “sister” universities founded by [Charles Lindsay Wilson](#), PhD, with Miriam Williams Wilson, President of [Rocky River Publishers LLC](#) and Chief Operations Officer of the WORLD FOOD PRESERVATION CENTER LLC® and Charles William Wilson, Research Editor, who has written two books on food issues – including “[Chew on This](#)” with Eric Schlosser. The Wilson ‘family’ also operates the U.S. 501c3 [World Food Preservation Education Foundation](#) (est. 2014 – but which has yet to report any income). WFPC was proposed by CL Wilson [in a 2012 paper](#) as a way to prevent “a pending civilization threatening food shortage and our limited ability to adequately increase food production...” with mixed views on GMOs and less-mixed views on synthetic chemicals [claiming modern agriculture and corporate agribusiness profiteering have degraded the environment](#) to the point of crisis.

WFPC has announced “*World leading scientists...*” (including the usual suspects of anti-GMO critics: Seralini, Carman, Herren, Hayes, Huber, Leu, – see list below) will speak at the first ever African Congress on Synthetic Pesticides next June in Nairobi, Kenya. The event sponsors include the Swiss government development aid program SDC and the

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African Development Bank. They also have some reputable University “partners” noted for their work – all of which will help lend credibility and influence to the cabal of misanthropic purveyors of disinformation about GMOs and crop protection products to African audiences at a critical time when they are trying to address issues like Fall Armyworm, banana wilt, drought and climate challenges, etc. The speakers being promoted can all be counted on spreading false fears about GMOs, herbicides (esp. glyphosate), etc. with the financial support of the Swiss government and the African Development Bank (funded by other governments, foundations – including the Rockefeller Foundation – and other donors).

[Main page with schedule outline](#) (notes speakers with links to bios)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (Nov. 2, 2018)

[World-leading scientists contemplate the impact of synthetic pesticides such as glyphosate and chlorpyrifos on the health of the African people and their environment along with the safety of GMOs.](#)

Charles L. Wilson, Founder/CEO

World Food Preservation Center, LLC

[\(304\) 279-4029](#)

Charles Town, WV: Synthetic pesticide contamination is one of the most under reported, underappreciated and under addressed health and environmental problems in the African continent. Leading world scientists will convene at the Safari Park Hotel & Casino [on June 18-20, 2019](#) to chart a course forward that will substantially and sustainably reduce the impact of synthetic pesticide contamination on the health of the African people, animals, and environment. Among the outstanding

[Health](#)” is Professor Hans Herren, 1995 World Food Prize Laureate. The mission of the congress is: Reducing Synthetic Pesticide Contamination in the African Continent: Substantial and Sustainable Solutions for the African People and their Environment.

A UN report presented to the UN Human Rights Council this year states that, “although pesticide use has been correlated with a rise in food production, it has had "catastrophic impacts" on human health and the environment. An average of about 200,000 people die from the toxic exposure of pesticides per year across the world, the United Nations says, calling for tougher global regulation of substances meant to control pests or weeds for plant cultivation. The UN report continues, "Equally, increased food production has not succeeded in eliminating hunger worldwide. Reliance on hazardous pesticides is a short-term solution that undermines the rights to adequate food and health for present and future generations.

The UN lists an array of suspected illnesses associated with synthetic pesticide use that

Includes:

- Cancer
- Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease
- Hormone disruption
- Birth defects
- Sterility
- Neurological disorders

The organizer of the congress, the [World Food Preservation Center LLC](#), is a consortium of 29 major agricultural universities and three major agricultural research institutes on six continents. It works to close the postharvest intellectual gap in developing countries by promoting the education of young postharvest scientists, organizing continent-wide congresses, and publishing reference books/texts on the postharvest preservation of food in developing countries.

SPEAKERS

(Click on name or photo for bio)

[PROF. HANS RUDOLF HERREN](#) 1995 World Food Prize Laureate, Swiss Entomologist/Agronomist, Farmer and Development Specialist

[PROF. TYRONE B. HAYES](#) Professor of Integrative Biology, UC, Berkeley, USA

[DR. JUDY CARMAN](#) Director, Institute of Health and Environment Research, Australia

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[PROF. RATEMO WAYA MICHIEKA](#) Professor Weed Science, Weed and Environmental Sciences, University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya

[DR. DARCY OGADA](#) Assistant Director, Africa Programs, Peregrine Fund, Kenya

[PROF. GILLES-ERIC SERALINI](#) Professor, University of Caen, France

[Dr. SUNDAY EKESI](#) Director of Research and Partnership ICIPE, Nairobi, Kenya

[Dr. ANDRE LEU](#) International Director, Regeneration International, Australia

[PROFESSOR HONGYIN ZHANG](#) Associate Dean, Jiangsu University, China

[PROFESSOR MOHAMMED BESRI](#) Emeritus Professor IAV Hassan II, Rabat, Morocco

[PROFESSOR DON M. HUBER](#) Emeritus Professor, Purdue University, USA

[PROFESSOR CHARLES L. WILSON](#) Founder, World Food Preservation Center LLC, USA

TedTalk by keynote speaker Tyrone Hayes [PESTICIDES AND PREGNANT WOMEN](#)

[CHEF JEROME DOUZELET](#) Chef and Co-Author, France

[DR. YEMISI JEFF-AGBOOLA](#) Ambassador World Food Preservation Center LLC and Mytox-South Partner, Nigeria

[PROFESSOR PRADLAD SETH](#) NASI Senior Scientist, Biotech Park, Lucknow, India

From: Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 4:01 PM
To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Thanks!

From: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 4:00 PM
To: Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege suggestion.

From: Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 1:45 PM
To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Thanks! I probably (b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege .
Maybe helpful for

From: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 9:45 AM
To: Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

OK thank you! (b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

From: Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC

To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: Re: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

(b) (5) Deliberative Process

2020-FAS-05877-F

From: "Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC" <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 at 5:40:30 PM
To: "Jay Byrne" <@v-fluence.com>, "Chao, Julie - FAS, Washington, DC" <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>, "Powell, Tracy - ARS" <tpowell@usaid.gov>
Cc: "Joshua Gilder" <@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Jay,

Thank you for sharing. I will discuss with our team in Nairobi, which also covers Tanzania.

Best wishes,
Shoshana

Shoshana Griffith

International Trade Specialist covering Africa, Middle East, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan
New Technologies & Production Methods Division | Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs
Foreign Agricultural Service | United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington DC 20250 | Room 5949
+ | Shoshana.Griffith@usda.gov

From: Jay Byrne <@v-fluence.com>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:14 AM
To: Chao, Julie - FAS <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>; Griffith, Shoshana - FAS <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>; Stacey.Peckins <Stacey.Peckins@fas.usda.gov>; Powell, Tracy - ARS <tpowell@usaid.gov>
Cc: Joshua Gilder <@gmail.com>
Subject: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

PROCEED WITH CAUTION: This message triggered warnings of **potentially** malicious web content. Evaluate this email by considering whether you are expecting the message, along with inspection for suspicious links.

Questions: Spam.Abuse@wdc.usda.gov

Following up on our meeting last year to stay in touch on emerging topics, I thought this would be of interest in case you missed this in the recent Bonus Eventus news reports. Feel free to reach out if you'd like to have a call and we can answer any questions you may have.

- **1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa: Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling Up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade** 18-21 June 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

Just an updated on the previously shared **All Africa Congress on Pesticides & Agroecology being held in Nairobi in June**. We've also been tracking a related (theme at least) French-sponsored **Pesticides Politics in Africa** event occurring

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11 duplicate pages omitted (below)

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From: Chao, Julie - FAS

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 12:58 PM

To: Carter, Lindsay - FAS; Strzelecki, Kelly - FAS

CC: Sanchez, Becxi - FAS; Evans, Don - FAS

Subject: RE: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

From: Carter, Lindsay - FAS

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 12:31 PM

To: Strzelecki, Kelly - FAS <Kelly.Strzelecki@fas.usda.gov>; Chao, Julie - FAS <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov> **Cc:** Sanchez, Becxi - FAS <Becxi.Sanchez@fas.usda.gov>; Evans, Don - FAS <Don.Evans@fas.usda.gov> **Subject:** RE: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Thank, Kelly.

Lindsay

Julie – I would begin with

Lindsay Carter

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Many thanks,

International Trade Specialist | Processed Products and Technical Regulations Division | Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs | Foreign Agricultural Service | U.S. Department of Agriculture
(202) 720-1008 | Lindsay.Carter@fas.usda.gov | 1400 Independence Ave SW, South Building – Rm 5532, Washington, DC 20250

From: Strzelecki, Kelly - FAS

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 12:24 PM

To: Chao, Julie - FAS <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>

Cc: Carter, Lindsay - FAS <Lindsay.Carter@fas.usda.gov>; Sanchez, Becxi - FAS <Becxi.Sanchez@fas.usda.gov> **Subject:**

FW: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Hi Julie,

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Kelly

Kelly Strzelecki

Senior Trade Advisor

Processed Products & Technical Regulations Division

Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs

USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service

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2020-FAS-05877-F

(b) (6)

From: Chao, Julie - FAS

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 11:12 AM

To: Tortora, Lori - FAS <Lori.Tortora@fas.usda.gov>; Strzelecki, Kelly - FAS <Kelly.Strzelecki@fas.usda.gov>; Knupp, Courtney - FAS <Courtney.Knupp@fas.usda.gov>

Subject: FW: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Hi Lori, Kelly, and Courtney,

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

I wanted to Julie

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

From: Jay Byrne <@v-fluence.com>

(b) (6)

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:14 AM

To: Chao, Julie - FAS <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>; Griffith, Shoshana - FAS <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>; Stacey.Peckins <Stacey.Peckins@fas.usda.gov>; Powell, Tracy - ARS <tpowell@usaid.gov>

Cc: Joshua Gilder <@gmail.com>

(b) (6)

Subject: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Following up on our meeting last year to stay in touch on emerging topics, I thought this would be of interest in case you missed this in the recent Bonus Eventus news reports. Feel free to reach out if you'd like to have a call and we can answer any questions you may have.

- **Pesticide Politics in Africa**, 29-31 May 2019, TPRI Arusha, Tanzania
- **1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa: Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling Up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade** 18-21 June 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

Just an updated on the previously shared **All Africa Congress on Pesticides & Agroecology being held in Nairobi in June**. We've also been tracking a related (theme at least) French-sponsored **Pesticides Politics in Africa** event occurring in Tanzania at the end of May. You can follow our issues tracking of these events here:

<https://monitoring.bonuseventus.org/tag/all-africa-pesticides-congress-2019/>

While the French Tanzania conference organizers have prior ties to Seralini, CRIIGEN and the anti-GMO agroecology promoting groups coordinating the Nairobi event, we'd not seen any updates to their program/plans to show they were formally linked. However, **recently Greenpeace, IPEN and other EU activists started promoting this TZ event via social**

AFR will be prominently featured at this conference. Also worth noting is the **prominent role being played by the French Government**, as amplified via a recent Tweet from their TZ embassy:

<https://twitter.com/FranceTanzania/status/1112592885399076864>

[France in Tanzania Verified account @FranceTanzania Mar 31](#)

The Cooperation section of the Embassy met professors of the [@muhimbiliuniver](#) of Health and Allied Sciences to prepare the conference on **pesticides politics** in Africa in [#Arusha](#) from the 29th to the 31st May.

11 duplicate pages omitted (below)
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From: Sage-EL, Kevin L

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2019 6:44 AM

To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC

Subject: RE: Rob Wager: FW: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Hi Shoshana,

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

or something else?

Kevin

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 20, 2019 8:52 PM

To: Sage-EL, Kevin L <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>

Subject: FW: Rob Wager: FW: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Kevin,

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Take care,
Shoshana

Shoshana Griffith

International Trade Specialist covering Africa, Middle East, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan
New Technologies & Production Methods Division | Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs
Foreign Agricultural Service | United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington DC 20250 | Room 5949

+ | Shoshana.Griffith@usda.gov

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 3:19 PM

To: Griffith, Shoshana - FAS, Washington, DC <Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>

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Cc: Powell, Tracy - ARS <tpowell@usaid.gov>; Chambers, Judy (IFPRI) <@cgiar.org>; blackburnza@state.gov;

(b) (6)

Joshua Gilder @gmail.com>

(b) (6)

Subject: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]Rob Wager: FW: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

PROCEED WITH CAUTION: This message triggered warnings of **potentially** malicious web content. Evaluate this email by considering whether you are expecting the message, along with inspection for suspicious links.

Questions: Spam.Abuse@wdc.usda.gov

Shoshan, et al.

I appreciate the opportunity to update you on the agroecology issues (additional details in email copied/preceding this note) we are tracking. Per our discussion, [Rob Wager](#) from [Vancouver Island University](#) (bio information below) will be in Nairobi (June 14-21, details below) and has offered his time and expertise in any way that would be helpful. In addition, Rob and other academics are planning on being Rome immediately following (June 24-25) the Nairobi conference to provide a panel discussion/ briefing on the broader issue of disparaging and limiting (or banning) agricultural technologies from ongoing IGO and EU agroecology policy formation. Rob and the coalition are open to any invitation(s) to collaborate or assist with this Rome briefing.

Rob and a coalition of influential academic, science and socio-economic experts, including Nobel Laureate Richard Roberts, have offered their voices to help **shift the current trend** of IGO, EU and other government adoption of **technology-eschewing (and disparaging) agroecology**, regenerative and full-circle-economic agriculture political policies. As you know, this has the most steam with official NGO stakeholders at the FAO and with the EU (led largely by policies and politicians in France).

These policy development campaigns are being aggressively exported to emerging markets and among development and environmental NGOs – with the example of multiple upcoming well-funded major “agroecology” conferences ([Kenya](#), [Tanzania](#), [Mexico](#), [Argentina](#)) sponsored by a combination of EU governments, the FAO, and IFOAM (organic trade promotion group). Greenpeace’s fingerprints and allied anti-GMO NGOs (AFSA, Organic Consumers, PAN, et al) are all over these events, **ALL OF WHICH ARE FOCUSING ON CONFLATING AND ATTACKING GMOs WITH PESTICIDES TO EXCLUDE THEM FROM HAVING ANY ROLE IN SUSTAINABLE AG POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS DEFINED AS AGROECOLOGY, REGENERATIVE OR FULL CIRCLE-ECONOMY** – and correspondingly thus banned/disallowed from use by countries, grantees or development NGOs participating in FAO, UNDP, UNEP, IMF, etc linked agreements (e.g., the CBD) where these technology-banning agroecology policies will be formally adopted.

Rob will be in Nairobi and available prior, during and immediately after the agroecology conference. He will also be attending the conference so he can share what was presented with the other independent experts in Rome.

Rob Wager, M.Sc.

Faculty Member, Biology Department, Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo BC
Canada

William Robert ‘Rob’ Wager has been a Faculty member of the **Biology Department of Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo BC Canada for 23 years**. Rob’s training is in biochemistry and molecular biology, and Rob currently teach classes in those fields. Additionally, he personally research genetically modified crops and foods, and subjects related to those. Because of that, and how closely they relate to his fields of

studies, Rob has expertise in agriculture, aquaculture, biochemistry, biology, biotechnology, environment, journalism, microbiology, plants, science, and sustainability.



Rob Wager is an independent scientist with zero financial connection to the biotechnology industry. He has been involved in GMO research with an emphasis on public education for 13 years. Rob has given many talks and written many articles for the general public that explain different aspects of GE technology.

For Visa invitation letter: William Robert Wager, Canadian Citizen, address: Vancouver Island University, Building 370, Room 125, 900 Fifth Street, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 5S5, Canada

Phone: CA + (local ; Fax: +1-250-740-6482; Email: @shaw.ca (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Travel Schedule:

- Arrives Nairobi, Kenya Friday, 14 June 2019 6 AM (Air France Flight 814 from Paris)
- Hotel while in Nairobi is Safari Park Hotel
- Departs Nairobi, Kenya Friday June 21 11:45 PM (Kenya Air 128 to Geneva/Rome)

Note: *Rob Wager's trip is financed solely by his university and independent foundation support with no ties to agribusiness industry. He will be responsible for all of his costs and expenses while in Kenya and seeks no additional or outside financial remuneration for his time or expenses.*

Rob's schedule – he will be **available for any meetings Friday 14 June, Saturday, Sunday or Monday** prior to the African Agroecology Congress. He will be **available during breaks and after Congress daily** activities for other interviews, briefings and meetings as needed. He will be **available all day the Friday after the Congress** for any activities until his late evening departure flight on **Friday 21 June**.

Rob Wager Peer Reviewed Publications

- [The 'Future of Food' is Genetic Engineering! \(Robert Wager & Henry I. Miller\) \[PDF\]](#)
- [One of Sixteen Letters to the Editor of Food and Chemical Toxicology: Seralini 2012](#)
- [Comment on "The Future of Agriculture". EMBO 2009](#)
- [Transgenic DNA in Mexico \(Quist Chapela\) Rebuttal](#)
- [Popular misconceptions: agricultural biotechnology](#)
- [Zero Sense in European Approach to GM](#)

Rob Wager Sample Public Media

- [Forbes Magazine: GMOs: Trust The Science, Not The Food Fad](#)
- [Viewpoint: How the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. fails viewers in its misleading coverage of GMO crops and glyphosate \(download as PDF\)](#)
- [CAPITAL IDEAS: The Ripple Effects of Scientific Illiteracy Can Have Dire Consequences](#)
- [The Mystery of the 'Rogue Wheat'](#)
- [Agricultural Biotechnology Is Much More Than Herbicide-Tolerant Crops](#)
- [Are Bees in Peril from neonicotinoids?](#)
- [Trust the Science, not the Food Fads](#)
- [Dirty Secrets of Fraudulent 'Advocacy Research'](#)
- [The Frankenfood myth: A GE salmon is still a salmon](#)
- [The Agriculture Manifesto](#)
- [Grain's west- Faceoff](#)

[Fear of GMO's not grounded in science](#)

- [Not all science is created equal: The GE crops story](#)
- [What really happened at AVICC regarding GE ban](#)
- [Special to The Garden Island](#)
- [Junk Science is leading to Junk Public Policy](#)
- [The Future of Bt Brinjal](#)
- [Science sides with genetically modified crops](#)
- [A Better Apple Awaits, But Regulators Won't Allow Us A Bite](#)
- [Why the IAASTD Failed](#)

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- [GM Reporting should rely on real expertise](#)
- [Future of GM crops](#)
- [Run for the Hills: A Nuclear Energy Story](#)
- [Organics versus GMO: Why the debate?](#)
- [Engineering Drought Tolerance](#)
- [The Biotech Solution to the Plastic Problem](#)
- [No Label Required](#)
- [Co-existence Crops](#)
- [The New Apple a Day](#)
- [Pharma crops](#)
- [Transgenic Canola does not Threaten Bees and Butterflies](#)
- [Genetically Engineered Crops:The First Ten Years](#)
- [Goliath verses Goliath \(The Percy Schmeiser story\)](#)
- [The Good Found in GURTs](#)
- [Biotechnology Benefits Biodiversity](#)
- [Biotech Potatoes Could Save Fish](#)
- [Food Scares, Fact or Fiction](#)
- [How did we get here from there? Biotechnology is threatened in Canada](#)
- [Health Food Biotech Style](#)
- [Some Facts about Food Biotechnology \(GM Food\)](#)
- [Biotech's Battle Against Famine](#)

Additional information below.

Thank you.

Jay Byrne, president

Toll Free: 877-835-8362 ext.

(b) (6)

USA +1 314-880-8000 ext

(b) (6)

Mobile: (b) (6)

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/jaybyrne>

Fax: 877-568-4848

SKYPE: Jay_Byrne

=====
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Visiting our St. Louis Office? [Click here for details and directions](#) to 360 N. Boyle, 2nd Floor, St. Louis, MO 63108.

From: Jay Byrne

To: Chao, Julie - FAS <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>; 'shoshana.griffith@fas.usda.gov' <shoshana.griffith@fas.usda.gov>; 'stacey.peckins@fas.usda.gov' <stacey.peckins@fas.usda.gov>; 'tpowell@usaid.gov' <tpowell@usaid.gov>

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Cc: 'Joshua Gilder' <@gmail.com>
(b) (6)

Subject: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Following up on our meeting last year to stay in touch on emerging topics, I thought this would be of interest in case you missed this in the recent Bonus Eventus news reports. Feel free to reach out if you'd like to have a call and we can answer any questions you may have.

- **Pesticide Politics in Africa**, 29-31 May 2019, TPRI Arusha, Tanzania
- **1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa: Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling Up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade** 18-21 June 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

Just an updated on the previously shared **All Africa Congress on Pesticides & Agroecology being held in Nairobi in June**. We've also been tracking a related (theme at least) French-sponsored **Pesticides Politics in Africa** event occurring in Tanzania at the end of May. You can follow our issues tracking of these events here:

<https://monitoring.bonuseventus.org/tag/all-africa-pesticides-congress-2019/>

While the French Tanzania conference organizers have prior ties to Seralini, CRIIGEN and the anti-GMO agroecology promoting groups coordinating the Nairobi event, we'd not seen any updates to their program/plans to show they were formally linked. However, **recently Greenpeace, IPEN and other EU activists started promoting this TZ event via social media** and the latest agenda ([posted by a Greenpeace-linked UK researcher](#)) shows that the **Pesticide Action Network EU & AFR** will be prominently featured at this conference. Also worth noting is the **prominent role being played by the French Government**, as amplified via a recent Tweet from their TZ embassy:

<https://twitter.com/FranceTanzania/status/1112592885399076864>

[France in Tanzania Verified account @FranceTanzania Mar 31](#)

The Cooperation section of the Embassy met professors of the [@muhimbiliuniver](#) of Health and Allied Sciences to

It appears a key organizer from France is **Nathalie Jas** with the [French National Institute for Agricultural Research | INRA · Institut de recherche interdisciplinaire de recherche en sciences sociales \(IRISSO\)](#). Like the All Africa Congress in Nairobi, this will be a very biased, one-sided, negative attack on pesticide use and likely include some conflation with GMOs. Similarly, it will be presenting an agroecology, organic alternative. The Tanzania event (background attached) appears to be heavily French influenced and led, while the Nairobi event has U.S. , EU, and Swiss sponsors/coordinators with EU and FAO participants.

As such, it's likely Seralini and similar misleading content/claims will be incorporated/referenced in Tanzania now as well as Kenya events. Note the listed sponsors (attached and below), as this appears to be a largely French-led (political, socio-economic/academic event). It's themes are strongly linked to the Nairobi agroecology event, but we do not see significant stakeholder/participant overlap in their published materials (yet).

• **Pesticide politics in Africa. 29th-31st May 2019, Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI), Arusha, Tanzania.**

Event: TPRI with French government and research agencies to host Pesticide Politics in Africa Conference in Arusha, TZ May 29-31; seeks European-African scholar collaboration to address links to economic boom in Africa to alleged increase in diseases linked to pesticide pollution and seeks alternative, organic production practices
January 28, 2019 Content Type: Stakeholder **Source:** Institut de Recherche Interdisciplinaire Sur Les Enjeux Sociaux Sciences Sociales, Politiques Sante (IRIS)

Stakeholder: Government **Region:** Europe **Favorability:** Negative

URL: <http://iris.ehess.fr/index.php?4187>

Conference 29th-31st May 2019, Tropical Pesticide Research Institute (TPRI), Arusha, Tanzania

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10 duplicate pages omitted (below)

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From: Higgiston, James J (Pretoria)

Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 7:43 AM

To: Geller, Laura - FAS, Brasilia, BRA; Bonsu, Kyle - FAS, Washington, DC

Subject: Fwd: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Attachments: image001.jpg; World Food Preservation Center - MediaWiki.pdf; cfp_conference_pesticide_politics_final_compressed.pdf

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

From: Wilder, Dwight - FAS, Washington, DC <Dwight.Wilder@fas.usda.gov>

Date: April 30, 2019 at 1:26:00 PM GMT+2

To: Torry, Justina (Algiers) <TorryJ@state.gov>, Abdi, Ali (Cairo) <Ali.Abdi@fas.usda.gov>, Tate, Bret - FAS, Washington, DC <Bret.Tate@fas.usda.gov>, Beillard, Mariano - FAS, Washington, DC <Mariano.Beillard@fas.usda.gov>, Bickford, Rachel E <Rachel.Bickford@fas.usda.gov>, Rush, Charles L <Charles.Rush@fas.usda.gov>, Archibald, Dan <dan.archibald@fas.usda.gov>, Abdi, Ali (Cairo) <Ali.Abdi@fas.usda.gov>, Sage-EL, Kevin L <Kevin.Sage-EL@fas.usda.gov>, Townsend, Jason "Shane" <Shane.Townsend@fas.usda.gov>, Haas, Morgan DT <Morgan.Haas@fas.usda.gov>, Lagos, Joshua E <Joshua.Lagos@fas.usda.gov>, Higgiston, James J (Pretoria) <James.Higgiston@fas.usda.gov>, Geller, Laura (Pretoria) <laura.Geller@fas.usda.gov>, Bonsu, Kyle - FAS, Washington, DC <Kyle.Bonsu@fas.usda.gov>, Osinski, Jasmine <Jasmine.Osinski@fas.usda.gov>

Cc: Hanson, Sarah - FAS, Washington, DC <Sarah.Hanson@fas.usda.gov>, Knupp, Courtney - FAS, Washington, DC <Courtney.Knupp@fas.usda.gov>, Guven, Cynthia - FAS, Washington, DC <Cynthia.Guven@fas.usda.gov> Subject: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Hi AME colleagues:

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Thanks,
Dwight

Dwight A. Wilder
Area Director, Africa and Middle East
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Tel: 202-720-7931

From: Guven, Cynthia - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 8:54 PM
To: Wilder, Dwight - FAS, Washington, DC <Dwight.Wilder@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: Fwd: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Cynthia Iglesias Guven
Acting Deputy Administrator
Office of Foreign Service Operations
Foreign Agricultural Service
United States Department of Agriculture

54 of 86

0303

Washington DC
Tel: 202-720-

2020-FAS-05877-F

From: "Knupp, Courtney - FAS, Washington, DC"
<Courtney.Knupp@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Courtney.Knupp@fas.usda.gov>>> Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 at 7:32:37 PM
To: "Guven, Cynthia - FAS, Washington, DC" <Cynthia.Guven@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Cynthia.Guven@fas.usda.gov>>>, "Huynh, Hoa - FAS, Washington, DC" <Hoa.Huynh@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Hoa.Huynh@fas.usda.gov>>>, "Branson, Adam - FAS, Washington, DC" <Adam.Branson@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Adam.Branson@fas.usda.gov>>>, "Hanson, Sarah - FAS, Washington, DC" <Sarah.Hanson@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Sarah.Hanson@fas.usda.gov>>>
Subject: FW: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

OFSO –

Can you ?

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

Thanks!

Courtney

From: Chao, Julie - FAS
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 11:12 AM
To: Tortora, Lori - FAS <Lori.Tortora@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Lori.Tortora@fas.usda.gov>>>; Strzelecki, Kelly - FAS <Kelly.Strzelecki@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Kelly.Strzelecki@fas.usda.gov>>>; Knupp, Courtney - FAS <Courtney.Knupp@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Courtney.Knupp@fas.usda.gov>>>
Subject: FW: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Hi Lori, Kelly, and Courtney,

(b) (5) Deliberative Process Privilege

I wanted to Julie

From: Jay Byrne <@v-fluence.com<<mailto:@v-fluence.com>>>

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:14 AM

To: Chao, Julie - FAS <Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Julie.Chao@fas.usda.gov>>>; Griffith, Shoshana - FAS

<Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Shoshana.Griffith@fas.usda.gov>>>; Stacey.Peckins

<Stacey.Peckins@fas.usda.gov<<mailto:Stacey.Peckins@fas.usda.gov>>>; Powell, Tracy - ARS

<tpowell@usaid.gov<<mailto:tpowell@usaid.gov>>>

Cc: Joshua Gilder <@gmail.com<<mailto:@gmail.com>>>

(b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: FYI: Anti-GMO, anti-pesticide full force press in Africa this spring/summer (Update on Tanzania sister conference to Nairobi agroecology event)

Following up on our meeting last year to stay in touch on emerging topics, I thought this would be of interest in case you missed this in the recent Bonus Eventus news reports. Feel free to reach out if you'd like to have a call and we can answer any questions you may have.

* Pesticide Politics in Africa, 29-31 May 2019, TPRI Arusha, Tanzania

* 1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa: Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers by Scaling Up Agroecology and Promoting Ecological Organic Trade” 18-21 June 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

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10 duplicate pages omitted (below)



Media invite

June 12, 2019

Attention: All Editors

2020-FAS-05877-F



RE: Press Conference on the 1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa – June 14, 2019

The debate about the risks associated with GMOs, synthetic pesticides and fertilizers has been raging for over two decades Worldwide. An estimated 3.5 billion kilograms of pesticides is applied to crops each year, and that number is steadily increasing as developing nations are steadily transitioning over to chemical-based agriculture in a misguided and misinformed effort to increase yield and lower cost. The use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides has been linked to a number of environmental and health problems and issues. According to the UN, 90% of synthetic pesticide fatalities come from developing countries and estimated costs from synthetic pesticide poisonings in sub-Saharan Africa now exceed the total annual overseas development aid given to the African region for basic health services. By 2020, if not curbed, the accumulated cost of illness and injury linked to pesticides in small-scale farming in sub-Saharan Africa could reach US\$90 billion.

approaches in food production, **Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT)**, **World Food and Preservation Centre (WFPC)** and IFOAM Organics International (IFOAM OI) have organized a three day International Conference that will discuss the impact of synthetic pesticides on Africans, their animals and the environment. The Conference will discuss best practices in agroecology the challenges and opportunities in Africa's organic trade arena. High level international speakers confirmed for the event include Prof. Giles Seralini, Prof. Tyrone Hayes and Dr. Judy Carmen who claim to have solid evidence to demonstrate the negative impact of GMOs and synthetic pesticides. From Kenya, some controversial anti-GMO campaigners like Dr. Peter Mokaya and Dr. Darcy Ogada as well as more balanced and neutral experts like Prof. Ratemo Michieka will be in attendance. Leaders of several global organic trade companies will also speak at the Conference. These include Kate Kaburuh (Kate Organics) and Sylvia Kuria (Sylvia Organics).

The media is invited to come and cover the Conference and interview some of the high profile scientists and experts who are designated to speak at the event.

What: Invitation to cover the Media Launch The 1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa

When: June 14, 2019

Where: Silver Springs Hotel

Time: 7.30am -10.30 am

Important Note: For further information, please contact **Venancia Wambua** on Telephone No: / Email: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

@biovisionafrica.org

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About Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT)

Biovision Africa Trust is a not-for-profit organization established in Kenya in 2009 by the Biovision Foundation for ecological development in Switzerland and supported by the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Nairobi. The Trust's goal is to alleviate poverty and improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Kenya and other African countries through supporting dissemination of information and knowledge on appropriate technology to improve human, animal, plant, and environmental health. Agricultural output and food supply are however hindered by various environmental factors and lack of information and relevant training for the African smallholder farmers. Plant pests, for instance, are responsible for up to 80% of crop losses. Ecologically sustainable solutions are a practical alternative for African farmers to achieve good crop yields without relying on expensive chemical fertilizers and pesticides. What is lacking, however, are effective dissemination pathways to deliver relevant information to the farmers.

About World Food Preservation Center (WFPC)

The World Food Preservation Center® LLC was established in response to a pending global food shortage that is destined to increase world hunger if not sustainably addressed. It is clear that we are not going to be able to meet this global food shortage crisis by simply producing more food as we did during the "Green Revolution."

Even with our more advanced food production technologies such as agroecology we are going to fall short of enough food to feed the worlds expanding population. One third of the food that we already produce globally is lost annually between the time that it is harvested and consumed. This is enough food to feed two billion hungry people and feed the world's expanding population. Therefore, it is apparent that we save more of the food that we already produce if we are to avoid escalating world hunger. This food must be safe and free from pesticides, toxins, and pathogens. Nutritious food is not healthy food if it is synthetic pesticide laden.

Because we have invested so few of our agricultural resources (5%) in the postharvest preservation of food as opposed to food production (95%) there are tremendous postharvest "skill gaps" and "technology gaps" in our agricultural institutions of higher learning particularly in developing countries. The World Food Preservation Center® LLC was formed to address intellectual postharvest gaps in developing countries by: (1) promoting the education (M.S. and Ph.D.) of young student/scientists in developing countries; (2) having young student/scientists in developing countries conduct research on much needed new postharvest technologies adaptable to their native countries; (3) organize continent-wide postharvest congress and exhibitions on food security; and (4) publish much needed new texts/reference books on postharvest technologies/methods for developing countries.

Founded in 1972, we are the only international umbrella organization for the organic world, uniting a diverse range of stakeholders contributing to the organic vision. Day by day, we work towards true sustainability in agriculture, from the field, through the value chain to the consumer. From building awareness among the public and advocating for sustainable policy, to building capacity and facilitating the transition of farmers to organic agriculture, everything we do aims to strengthen the organic movement and lead it forwards. We have Affiliates in more than 120 countries. In order to unify, lead and assist this broad-based constituency in a fair, inclusive and participatory manner, we organize a General Assembly every three years.

At every General Assembly, our members elect the World Board, who shape the direction of our work and appoint Affiliates to committees, working groups and task forces on topics like the development of standards or the facilitation of Organic Agriculture in developing countries.

Our member organizations also establish alliances based on regional priorities (Regional Bodies) and sector-specific priorities (Sector Platforms).

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Piper guineense* and *Sesamum indicum* as Insecticide Synergists for Controlling *Rhyzopertha dominica* and *Tribolium castaneum

Taiwo Joshua Agunloye¹ and Adeola A. Ala^{1*}

1 – Department of Zoology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

(b) (6)

* Corresponding author's email address: @gmail.com

ABSTRACT

In sub-Saharan Africa, post harvest cereal losses are mostly due to insect pests, rodents and microorganisms, accounting for an estimated annual loss of about 30% of stored grain. In a bid to reduce this threat to food security, farmers indiscriminately use very high concentrations of synthetic pesticides, leading to widespread resistance and negative economic, health, and environmental consequences. *Rhyzopertha dominica* and *Tribolium castaneum* are two stored products pests which have developed resistance to the insecticide cypermethrin. This study investigated the potential of botanicals, *Piper guineense* seed extract (PGE), the oil component of *Sesame indicum* seed extract (SISO) and the non-oil component of *S. indicum* seed extract (SINSO) as synergists to restore cypermethrin toxicity. In synergistic bioassays, adults of each insect species were topically exposed to different cypermethrin/synergist combinations. *In vitro* biochemical assays were also carried out to investigate the inhibitory effects of the synergists on

insects. Cypermethrin/synergist combination of 24 hour LC₂₅ cypermethrin and 25 mg/L PGE resulted in significantly higher percent mortality of 82.50 ± 6.29 in *T. castaneum* compared with cypermethrin alone. *In vitro* biochemical assays showed that PGE had high percent inhibition (88.22%) at 5mg/mL on GST in *R. dominica* while 2 mg/mL SINSO had moderate percent inhibition (48.07%) on esterase in *R. dominica*. These results demonstrate *in vitro* GST inhibition by the extracts which may be responsible for the synergy with cypermethrin, observed in the topical bioassay. The botanical synergists utilised in this study effectively decreased the doses of cypermethrin needed to cause insect mortality and can therefore be considered potent tools in

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reversing insecticide resistance. Insecticide persistence in the environment will also diminish due to much lower concentrations of insecticides required for mortality in insects.

Keywords: Insecticide resistance, synergists, detoxification enzymes, enzyme inhibition, pyrethroids, stored products.

21 May 2019

Dear Adeola A. Ala,
[2020-FAS-05877-F](#)

Re: Invitation to participate in the 1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

On behalf of the IFOAM Organics International (IFOAM OI), World Food Preservation Center LLC (WFPC), Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) and the Conference Organizing Committee (COC) of the 1st International Conference on Agroecology Transforming Agriculture & Food Systems in Africa with the theme '*Reducing Synthetic Fertilizers and Pesticides through Scaling Up Agroecology, Promoting Ecological Organic Trade*', we are pleased to inform you that your abstract has been **accepted with minor revisions for poster presentation** in this Conference to be held in **June 18th – 21st, 2019** at **Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi Kenya**. Kindly effect the suggested corrections and submit the reviewed abstract to the LOC by **26th May 2019** for preparation of the book of abstracts.

For visa requirements please refer to the link: <http://www.immigration.gov.ke/page/requirements-entry-kenya>. You may use this letter of invitation to support your visa application. Please endeavor to make early bookings for your accommodation and travel. Bank details, accommodation and other conference updates can be accessed at the conference website: <https://agroecologyconference.eoai-africa.org>.

For any further inquiries, please contact us at:

Email: delegate@eoai-africa.org

Tel: +254719052192/+25419052113

Thank you for submitting your abstract and we look forward to meeting you in Nairobi, 'the City in the Sun', to engage in this great conference.

Best regards,

DavidMAmudavi

Dr. David M. Amudavi (PhD),

Executive Director, Biovision Africa Trust

Chairperson, Conference Organizing Committee

POSTER PREPARATION GUIDELINES

Poster formatting guidelines:

Posters may display information in any way the author chooses, and may include figures, graphs, tables, text, photographs, etc. It is recommended to include:

1. Title
2. Name of author(s) and affiliation(s)
3. Abstract
4. Introduction/Objectives/Aim/Problem/Goal
5. Materials and methods
6. Results
7. Discussion
8. Conclusion/Recommendation(s)
9. Acknowledgements
10. References

Poster Dimensions

- Each poster should be no larger than A0 paper size. Posters dimensions should be 84.1 cm (width) × 118.9 cm (height) or 33.1 inches (width) × 46.8 inches (height)
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- Should be attached to it with Velcro tape (pins are not allowed).

Presenters must locate the poster display area, and hang their poster at least 15 minutes before the poster session. Materials to mount posters will be provided by the conference organizers.

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Report Highlights:

Bt. cotton will likely be the first commercially approved genetically engineered (GE) crop for cultivation in Kenya. The Kenyan government's priority to revive its cotton and textile sector under the President's Big Four Agenda that supports the manufacturing and food security pillars, favors Bt. cotton's early release into the market. The import ban on GE products remains, limiting GE technology adoption and acceptance, severely and unduly restricting exports, and food aid assistance.

On November 21, 2012, Kenya banned all genetically engineered (GE) imports, including processed and unprocessed goods, seeds, and food assistance commodities. The Ministry of Health prompted the move over food safety concerns. As the demand for feed inputs rises, the ban is especially hampering potential U.S. exports of feed ingredients including soy, feed corn, and distillers dried grains.

Despite the import ban, the Government of Kenya (GOK) continues to support domestic development of GE products and allows importation of GE research material. Research trials for GE cassava, sorghum, sweet potato, and banana are ongoing. Research on GE Gypsophila cut flower (Baby’s Breath) is complete, but commercialization has stalled due to concerns over affecting trade with the European Union (EU) market. The most advanced, Bt. cotton is at the open field trials stage, the last research step before commercialization.

Bt. corn research beyond confined field trials (CFTs) is on hold pending approval by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). Efforts are underway to open the process.

Kenya’s animal biotechnology research is at early stages of development. Research scientists at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) are conducting research to develop trypanosome resistant cattle and goats using various technologies that include cloning, genetic engineering, and genome editing. Trypanosomiasis is one of the most significant constraints to cattle production in Africa, directly affecting livestock productivity.

Other related animal biotechnology research includes development of vaccines and diagnostic kits. The National Biosafety Authority (NBA) has developed guidelines on the contained use of GE animals, and a draft on animal biotechnology regulations.

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CHAPTER 1: PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY

a) Product development

Kenya continues to build the capacity for GE research and development. The following table presents plant and GE crops under development in Kenya that may commercialize in the next five years.

Crop	Trait	Developers	Stage of Development	Estimated Date of Commercial Release
Gypsophila Flower	Pink Coloration of Petals (<i>The trait confers flower color stability</i>)	¹ KALRO Imaginature Ltd., <i>representing Danziger – “Dan” Flower Farm of Israel</i>	CFT completed; No NPTs required for the plant. NBA reviewing the application for commercialization.	Uncertain
Cotton	Insect Resistance (<i>African bollworm</i>)	KALRO Monsanto/Bayer Sciences	First season National Performance Trials (NPTs) completed at seven sites; Second season trials to start in February 2019 at four sites.	<i>First cultivation planned for late 2019/early 2020</i>
Corn	Drought Tolerance/Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA) -- MON 87460	KALRO ² AATF ³ CIMMYT	Six seasons of CFTs completed. <i>Project dropped to pave way for the other two trials with superior technologies – MON810 and the stacked event, MON810 and MON 87460.</i>	Not Applicable
	WEMA Insect Resistance (MON 810)	¹ KALRO ² AATF CIMMYT	Awaiting NEMA’s approval to conduct NPTs at six sites (Alupe; Kibos; Kakamega; Embu; Thika, and Mwea)	2020/2021
	Stacked maize event for insect resistance (MON810) and drought tolerance	KALRO AATF CIMMYT	Two seasons CFTs completed at two sites. <i>KALRO scientists observed the stacked</i>	<i>2020/2021</i>

	(MON87460)		<i>maize event trials to withstand the Fall Army Worm (FAW), a devastating, invasive pest mainly attacking maize and sorghum, key staple foods.</i>	
Cassava	Virus Resistance			
	VIRCA Plus Project Biofortified Cassava resistant to Cassava Mosaic Disease (CMD) and Cassava Brown Streak Disease (CBSD); Research ongoing in Kenya, Uganda, and Nigeria	KALRO ⁴ DDPSC ⁶ NARO ⁵ IITA ⁹ ARCN	One CFT season completed. Regulatory trials for safety data collection is ongoing.	The developers to submit regulatory dossier to NBA by end of 2019 for environmental release request.
	Cassava Brown Streak Virus (CBSV) and African Cassava Mosaic Virus (ACMV)	⁷ MMUST	CFT – First season completed. <i>ACMV remained a challenge; MMUST re-adapting the research to address the issue.</i>	Unknown
Sorghum	Enhanced pro Vitamin A levels, Bioavailable Zinc and Iron	KALRO ⁸ AHBFI Pioneer Hi-Bred Kenya Ltd. (Corteva)	CFT – Seventh season has been completed	2020/2021
Sweet Potato	Virus Resistance: siRNA resistance to Sweet Potato virus Disease	KALRO - Kakamega Center DDPSC	CFT – First season has been completed	2021/2022

	Weevil Resistance through RNAi technology	ILRI	Contained use under laboratory and greenhouse trials ongoing at BecA-ILRI Hub, Nairobi	2021/2022
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Banana	Banana bacterial <i>Xanthomonas</i> wilt (BXW) resistance	KALRO IITA	First season CFT has been completed at KALRO Research Station- Alupe	2021/2022
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Notes: ¹Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization; ²African Agricultural Technology Foundation; ³International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center; ⁴Donald Danforth Plant Science Center; ⁵International Institute of Tropical Agriculture; ⁶National Agricultural Research Organization, Uganda; ⁷Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology; ⁸Africa Harvest Biotechnology Foundation International; ⁹Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria

Sources: International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA), 2017; FAS/Nairobi field visits and meetings with key biotech stakeholders.

Find additional information on approved GE projects at: [Biosafety Clearing House Kenya](#)

b) Commercial production

Kenya does not commercially produce GE crops or GE seeds. However, commercialization of Bt. cotton will likely happen in late 2019 while that of GE *Gypsophila* awaits NBA's approval.

c) Exports

Kenya does not export GE crops or products that contain GE materials to the United States or any other country. When approved, GE *Gypsophila* will be an addition to Kenya's assortment of cut flower exports in the international market, including the United States.

d) Imports

GOK banned importation of GE products (crops, processed products, and seeds) on November 21, 2012. Ministry of Health prompted the move citing the discredited Séralini study that linked cancer in rats to consumption of GE corn. The following link provides a report on the ban: [Kenya Bans Imports of Genetically Modified Foods](#)

NBA is responsible for the approval process of import shipments of GE products. The authoritative legislation, Kenya's Biosafety Act of 2009, stipulates that the approval process should take 90-150 days. In addition, the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) requires imported GE plant products to have:

- A declaration from the country of origin that states the import's GE status, and
- A phytosanitary certificate.

Kenya is a net food importer of agricultural commodities, mainly corn, wheat, rice, and edible oils.

e) Food Aid

Kenya is a food-aid recipient country. Some food aid commodities, like corn-soy blend, are GE

assistance through the World Food Program (WFP). Since the GE products import ban came into effect, no humanitarian assistance containing GE products has accessed Kenya. Find details of past GE food imports approvals at: [Approved Genetically Modified Products for Imports and Transit](#)

The GE import ban also affects food aid shipments destined for other countries. Under advisement of the U.S government, food aid destined for inland east African countries, which would ordinarily enter through the Port of Mombasa, diverts to other ports.

f) Trade Barriers

In addition to the GE ban, mandatory labeling of GE foods effectively precludes importation of food with GE components. Violation of the mandatory labeling provisions imposes a fine of up to \$230,000 and/or imprisonment up to ten years. The approval process for importation is also slow because of untenable pre-notification procedures.

PART B: POLICY

a) Regulatory framework

The NBA, established by the Biosafety Act No.2 of 2009, is under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation administratively, but under the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology legally. NBA is the main regulatory agency that oversees GE development in Kenya. It is responsible for regulations and policies, as well as general supervision and control over the transfer, handling, and use of GE products. Following the Biosafety Act 2009, NBA developed the following four GE implementing regulations:

- Contained Use Regulation, 2011;
- Environmental Release Regulation, 2011;
- Import, Export, and Transit Regulation, 2011; and
- Labeling Regulation, 2012.

In addition, in draft stage is the Packaging, Transport, and Identification regulation. Find additional information at the [National Biosafety Authority website](#).

NBA works together with eight other regulatory agencies that have different roles in regulating GE products:

- [Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service](#) (KEPHIS) under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation, oversees the introduction, testing and use of biotechnology plants and seeds;
- [Department of Public Health](#), under the Ministry of Health, safeguards consumers' health through food safety and quality control, surveillance, prevention and control of food borne diseases;
- [Kenya Bureau of Standards](#), (KEBS) under the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives develops food standards, quality assurance, and testing; [Biosafety Issues and Activities](#) · [National Environment Management Authority](#) (NEMA), under the Ministry of Environment and Forestry oversees environmental safety issues and conducts environmental impact assessments. NEMA issues licenses that permit national performance trials (NPTs) on GE crops and plants; · Pest Control Products Board(PCPB), under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation regulates the import, export, manufacture, distribution, and use of products used for the control of pests;
- [Kenya Wildlife Service](#) (KWS), under the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife undertakes and 6

coordinates biodiversity research and monitoring through its Biodiversity Research and Monitoring Division. This Division provides scientific information that is used in the conservation and management of Kenya's invaluable biodiversity;

- [Kenya Industrial Property Institute](#) (KIPI), under the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Cooperatives administers intellectual property rights; and,
- [Department of Veterinary Services](#) (DVS), under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation, protects and controls spread of animal diseases and pests to safeguard human health, improve animal welfare, and increase livestock productivity through production of high-quality livestock and livestock products.

The following figure shows the process for approving production of GE crops developed in Kenya.

Source: NBA

Source: NBA

b) Approvals

Kenya is yet to register GE plants or crops for cultivation or export. However, with the progress made in GE Gypsophila, Bt. cotton, and Bt. corn development, Kenya will have GE crops and a plant under cultivation in the near future. The NBA has also granted approvals for contained use and for confined field trials (CFTs).

Prior to the GE import ban, NBA approved imported GE corn-soy blend for humanitarian assistance through the World Food Program (WFP). Since the import ban came into effect in November 2012, no GE food has come through WFP either for Kenya or on transit to the neighboring countries. WFP has limited its food aid to non-GE commodities.

c) Stacked or pyramided event approvals

Stacked corn event testing for insect resistance and drought tolerance is ongoing. In addition, CFTs for biofortified sorghum and cassava involve more than one trait. NBA conducts risk assessment for each trait individually (per event) in order to approve a stacked product.

d) Field testing

Kenya has allowed CFTs for GE corn, cotton, cassava, sorghum, sweet potato, banana, and Gypsophila flower. For security reasons, ease of control, and management, KALRO centers exclusively provide trial sites (for both CFT and NPT) that are normally on less than one-acre plots. In addition, NEMA must conduct an EIA before the NPTs start.

KEPHIS, NBA, KALRO, AATF, and the Program for Biosafety Systems (PBS) have developed NPT guidelines to guide the NPT process on GE crops in Kenya. The guidelines address measures to control gene flow, the number and size of confined field trials, and related issues.

KALRO has 16 research institutes spread across different agro ecological zones of Kenya.

e) Innovative biotechnologies

testing genome editing, and RNA interference (RNAi, switching on and off gene expression) at the laboratory level for proof of concept.

Interest has emerged in Synthetic Biology to find practical synthetic biology solutions in animal and human health, industry, and environment. On March 15-17, 2017, Kenya held the first ever workshop on Synthetic Biology in collaboration with the United Kingdom's Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) to create awareness on the technology. Possible areas of research identified from the workshop include development of biosensors for use in agriculture, health, and environment sectors. Synthetic biology technology will also develop industrial products used in research laboratories such as primers.

f) Coexistence

NBA has drafted policy guidance on coexistence between GE and conventional crops that awaits discussion with stakeholders.

g) Labeling

GOK requires mandatory labeling of foods and feed containing at least one percent, by weight, of GE content. No labeling is required if the GE content is less than one percent of the total weight and the product has been approved by NBA as safe. Find details on the labeling regulations at: [Labeling Regulations 2012 and 2012 Kenya Agricultural Biotechnology Report](#) and [Labeling Regulations](#)

h) Monitoring and testing

NBA is responsible for approving imports of GE products, while KEPHIS, KEBS, and Port Health (Department of Public Health) monitor and test agricultural commodities and food product imports at ports of entry for compliance to the set standards and requirements. However, the Kenyan government has limited personnel and testing facilities for evaluating agricultural products for GE content.

In addition, NBA inspects facilities that conduct GE research to ensure compliance to the Biosafety law and approved conditions.

i) Low level presence (LLP) policy

NBA has drafted a low-level presence and adventitious presence policy guidance that awaits consultation with stakeholders. In response to poor 2017 harvests following localized drought conditions, on June 21, 2017, the CEO of the NBA issued a statement on a "Revised Procedure for importing 99.1 percent Genetically Modified-Free Maize Grains," allowing up to 0.9 percent low level presence of GE maize during a duty-free emergency importation period from June 1 to July 31, 2017. For countries like the United States with commercialized GE maize, the NBA was to sample and carry out conformity assessment tests at the cost to the applicant of KSH 30,000 (\$291), and if found to have greater than 0.9 percent biotechnology content, the maize would not be cleared for use as food or feed.

J) Additional regulatory requirements

Kenya's National Assembly Agriculture committee has proposed additional testing to evaluate safety of GE foods for human consumption. These include acute and subacute toxicity testing, chronic toxicity,

and long-term and epidemiological surveillance. The committee wants all GE products to pass preliminary, independently verified, 90-day animal feeding tests that will qualify the GE producer for issuance of a Class A permit from the Food Safety and Quality Control Unit of the Ministry of Health. The permit should be for a limited period not exceeding two years.

k) Intellectual property rights (IPR)

The Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) is the government institution that administers and protects intellectual property rights that may pertain to genetic engineering, including patents, trademarks, utility models, industrial designs, and technovations.

World Trade Organization (WTO). The Seeds and Plant Varieties Act (Plant Breeders Rights) and related regulations offer patent owners protection.

L) Cartagena protocol ratification

Kenya was the first country to sign the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB) on January 29, 2000. Kenya ratified the Protocol in 2002 and it entered into force on September 11, 2003. The international regulatory agreement requires countries to address environmental safety and human health by ensuring safe handling, transport, and use of GE products. NBA is Kenya's focal point of the CPB and shares data with the Biosafety Clearing House, a mechanism set up by CPB to facilitate information exchange on GE product development and to assist member countries in complying with their obligations under the protocol. More details on the protocol can be found at: [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#)

Kenya adopted the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the CPB on October 15, 2010. It gives Kenya flexibility to implement legislative, administrative or judicial rules and procedures relevant to liability and redress.

m) International treaties/forums

Kenya is a member of several international organizations that deal with plant protection and plant health, including the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the Codex Alimentarius (Codex), and the aforementioned CPB. Generally, these international frameworks seek to protect the environment and human health without unduly hindering international trade, aim to be transparent and in harmony with international trade regulations, and are science-based.

n) Related issues

Not applicable.

PART C: MARKETING

a) Public/private opinions

Debate on biotech crops and bioengineered foods remains contentious and political. Some non-governmental organizations have exposed Kenyan consumers to negative, baseless messaging, while Kenyan agricultural research scientists, farmers, university professors and students, seed companies, and other pro-biotech non-governmental organizations continue to provide positive, science-based messaging.

b) Market acceptance/studies

A 2015 survey carried out by Kenya University Biotechnology Consortium (KUBICO) titled "Architecture of GMO acceptance in Kenya" indicated that a majority of Kenyans favors "GMO" products and technology. The urban population was more receptive to the use of "GMOs" and that acceptance had no correlation with level of education.

- a. Seven out of every 10 Kenyans thought "GMOs" are safe for human consumption;
- b. Eight out of every 10 Kenyans knowingly consume "GMOs";
- c. Nine out of every 10 Kenyans support the technology in all its applications; d. 14 percent of those opposed to the technology cited mistrust for government regulatory ability, and 37 percent lack of awareness on safety and regulations.

Of the 3,529 respondents,

- e. 76 percent supported GM product imports;
- f. 71 percent knew about GM products presence in Kenya
- g. 50 percent were aware of the Biosafety regulations; and

CHAPTER 2: ANIMAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

PART D: PRODUCTION AND TRADE

a) Product development

Research scientists based at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya have designed research to develop vaccines, disease diagnostic test kits, and trypanosome-resistant cattle. The ultimate goal is to improve on livestock health, and consequently, their productivity.

Product/Animal	Trait	Developers	Stage of Development
Rift Valley Fever Vaccine	Evaluate ChAdOx1-GnGc vaccine in confined field trial to assess its safety, and immunogenicity among sheep, goats, cattle, and dromedary camels in Kenya.	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)	CFT approved on November 25, 2016; Kapiti Ranch, Machakos is the location of the trial.
Recombinant Viral Vaccine	To control infections caused by Mycoplasma mycoides cluster.	ILRI	Contained Use/Laboratory Stage
Disease Diagnostic test kits	Example: latex agglutination test kit for CCPP (CAPRITESTR)	ILRI	Awaiting commercial release
Cattle	Resistance to Trypanosomes	ILRI;KALRO; and Institute of Primate Research (IPR)	Pre-CFT

Source: NBA

ILRI research scientists plan to develop disease-resistant cattle for Africa using technologies such as

cloning, GE, and genome editing. The aim is to reduce cattle disease incidences across the continent, and to improve livelihoods for African farmers through increased cattle productivity.

Trypanosomiasis, a zoonotic disease also known as Nagana in cattle and sleeping sickness in humans, has widespread impact on both human health and livestock production across Africa. ILRI scientists estimate its impact to exceed \$1 billion in losses annually to the African economy, reportedly affecting more than 70 percent of the reared cattle. The prevalence of trypanosomiasis effectively limits animal agriculture across Sub-Saharan Africa, depriving many communities of high quality protein sources and draft animals.

project. In the second phase of the project, the ILRI scientists will develop a genome-edited, trypanosome-resistant Boran cow (“Mzima”) with a gene for a different form of a common protein (Apolipoprotein) that promises to confer immunity to trypanosomes.

The key institutions involved in livestock biotechnology research and development include ILRI, KALRO, and IPR. NBA regulates the application of biotechnology in livestock. Find more information on NBA-approved livestock projects at [Approved Contained Use Research Activities including Livestock Biotechnology](#)

b) Commercial production

Not Applicable

c) Exports

Not Applicable

d) Imports

The biotech import ban affects both plant and animal products but excludes research materials. Kenya will need to import transgenic products such as cow fibroblasts, blastocysts, sperm, and possibly transgenic live animals to facilitate development of the trypanosome resistant cow.

e) Trade barriers

The same GE import ban applies to products of animal biotechnology.

PART E: POLICY

a) Regulatory framework

NBA’s regulatory mandate covers both plants and livestock. NBA is currently working on specific animal biotechnology regulations. Animal science researchers use NBA’s protocols/guidelines on experiments under contained use, and confined field trials.

b) Innovative biotechnologies

ILRI is developing a Trypanosome resistant cow using CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing technology. The transgenic trait used will be subject to NBA regulations. It is not yet clear how the NBA will regulate animal products developed through genome editing that involve deletions or other traits that achievable through traditional breeding.

c) Labeling and traceability

No information available for now.

However, labeling and traceability requirements will likely be the same as for plants when GE animal products become available in the market.

d) Intellectual property rights (IPR)

Same as plant biotechnology

e) International treaties/forums

Kenya has not taken a position on animal biotechnologies in international forums despite being a member of Codex and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). Research on animal biotechnologies is in its early stages of development.

Not Applicable

PART F: MARKETING

a) Public/private opinions

Unknown/Not Applicable/No information available

b) Market acceptance/studies

Not Applicable

Pesticide Politics in Africa

An interdisciplinary international conference
on the use, regulation and health effects of agrochemicals in sub-Saharan
countries

Introduction

The current economic boom in many sub-Saharan countries is accompanied by an unprecedented increase in noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) due to industrial pollution, including pesticides. While local and international mobilizations call for more stringent pesticide control measures, African governments often refrain from adopting and enforcing strict regulations – considered as potential obstacles to “development”. This interdisciplinary conference aims at laying the foundations for a long-term scientific cooperation

between African and European scholars on the management of pesticide-related occupational and environmental health hazards in Africa. It aims at exploring the trade-offs between production and prevention that underlie the expansion of chemical-intensive agriculture on the continent, to understand the relations between technique, knowledge and power that condition the inclusion of African populations in the globalized economy, and to grasp the resulting health and environmental inequalities.

As in other areas with intensive use and poor regulation and/or implementation, pesticide-related health risks are exacerbated in Africa by the inadequacy of regulatory frameworks and the weakness, or inexistence, of surveillance and control systems. As a result, the import, production, trade and use of pesticides take place without the legal safeguards and institutional counterweights ensuring that public health concerns receive adequate attention in a political context where “development”, narrowly defined as economic growth, and “food security”, with a single dominant focus on increased agricultural production, are the overriding priorities. Facing strong activism denouncing the adverse effects of industrial agriculture and corporate influence over pesticide-related public policy making, some European governments have started to backpedal at home – at least in their declarations of political intent. African governments and Western development agencies are less challenged, however, when – backed by private foundations and transnational corporations – they are calling for an “African Green Revolution”, still essentially based on the much-contested model of chemical-intensive agriculture, with pesticides as the cornerstone. In parallel, foreign agro-companies and governments are making large-scale land acquisitions in a new “scramble for Africa”, transforming the continent into the new frontier of global agro-industrial expansion.

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This conference develops upon the observation that the chemical-based intensification of agricultural production in sub-Saharan Africa, which is likely to be aggravated by climate change, bears new occupational and environmental health hazards, which are exacerbated by the use of highly toxic pesticides (often banned in Europe), by informal trade, by dysfunctional control systems, by lack of access to risk information, by the inexistence of protective gear appropriate for tropical climates, and by the diversity of exposed populations ($\approx 80\%$ of the active population has an agricultural activity – mostly on family farms, potentially exposing vulnerable populations such

domestic and international demands, these hazards confront African governments with technically and politically intricate regulatory and public policy choices. While international donors, industry players and environmentalist groups try to influence pesticide legislation and its implementation, the underlying trade-offs between productive and preventive considerations become a major political stake, and the way these trade-offs are formulated becomes an important field of scientific enquiry.

We aim at bringing together researchers from various backgrounds in human and social sciences, other sciences with an interest in public health and public policy, or environmental and health exposures, as well as members of administrations or NGOs involved in pesticide regulation who are eager to reflect on what may be done to better assess and manage pesticide-related detrimental health effects.

We welcome proposals along the following themes:

1. Producing knowledge on pesticide exposures and their health effects

Concerned about pesticide-induced hazards, researchers, health practitioners, public officials, activists and simply concerned citizens in many regions of Africa have started to gather information and produce knowledge on pesticide exposures and their suspected effects on human health. How do these players go about this and what forms of expert and/or lay knowledge do they produce: counting cases of possibly pesticide-related health conditions, registration of acute poisoning cases, forms of popular epidemiology, etc.? Do they engage in studying the toxicity of the compounds sold in African countries? What difficulties do these players face in objectivizing the phenomena they attempt to explore? Whom are information and knowledge produced for? Which alliances do information and knowledge producers engage in and, if any, which strategies of mobilization do they adopt? To what extent and how do they attempt (and possibly succeed) to draw attention to their findings, either in discreet but possibly influential spaces or in more public arenas, and with which effects? What is the political economy of attention to occupational health, environmental health, and environmental aspects of pesticide exposures? This focus welcomes presentations both by social science researchers studying these knowledge-production practices and by the very players engaged in these practices.

2. Regulatory dimensions: national and international regimes for pesticide regulation and control

The various processes leading to the international conventions regulating the safety of international pesticide trade have been studied in much detail, with a special focus on the Rotterdam Convention and its Prior Informed Consent (PIC) mechanism. However, far less is known about the actual implementation of these international agreements and the PIC in African countries. Do these international agreements and mechanisms influence domestic authorization processes? If so, in which ways? Furthermore, little is known on how pesticides are actually authorized in African Countries. Given many regulatory authorities' limited toxicological capacities, how are risk assessments carried out, and by whom? How do authorities reach the decision to register a specific pesticide – especially if it is banned elsewhere? Who are the actors involved in defining pesticide regulation? How do they interact, with which rationales? How are economic, social and

common strategies or are they competing, with specific interests and claims? How do other national or international actors (administrations, international organizations, NGOs, foundations, etc.) address pesticide regulation? What are their claims and how do they promote them? Concerning regulatory enforcement, how are data on pesticide trade and uses collected? What is known about the magnitude of illegal trade of unregistered, banned or obsolete pesticides? How are borders controlled? What is the political economy of non enforcement? Lastly, what is the role of private standards (or soft law) in the management of pesticides' detrimental effects?

3. Coping with contamination: pesticides and their effects in everyday life

Populations exposed to pesticides or other toxic chemicals – especially if they have low education – are often presented as unaware of the dangers they face and the risks they take. It is then assumed that safety education would contribute to reducing harm and protecting these populations. Yet, various bodies of work have shown that even untrained people are often aware of the dangers they face and develop preventive or coping strategies. Other bodies of work have also shown that top-down generalist prescriptions may not be efficient – especially if not adapted to local conditions (environmental, technical, economic, etc.). We expect contributions that address both sets of issues: 1) How do (potentially) affected populations apprehend pesticide exposures and their effects? How do they identify and characterize exposures and how do they deal with the uncertainty concerning the resulting hazards? Which preventive or curative actions do they adopt? How does the awareness to live and work in a contaminated area alter the affected populations' relations with political institutions and with their natural environment? 2) How – and with whom – can effective preventive interventions and arrangements be developed and implemented? How to best involve exposed populations? How can one avoid the transfer of responsibility to the victims that is often implicit in calls for an improved “risk culture”?

4. The political economy of pesticide use (and its alternatives): the industrialization of agriculture in Africa

Postulating that the magnitude and modalities of pesticide use are strongly influenced by the structures of agricultural production and distribution, this focus proposes to explore the ways in which national and international agricultural policies and market structures affect the use of agrochemicals in various contexts. Globally and locally, how do producers of agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides...) attempt to exert influence on regulators, farmers and other agricultural players? While its influence remains under researched and often invisible, what role does agribusiness play in the conception and promotion of agricultural development projects/corridors? How do agri-food companies, as buyers of produce and structuring agents of value chains, shape modes of agricultural production – and thus pesticide use? In which ways is the production and uptake of a certain type of agronomical knowledge (at the expense of other types) conditioned by these political and economic considerations? More generally, to what extent do dominant policy frames – such as “economic growth” or “food security” – limit the resonance of considerations concerning food quality and the safety of production processes? How does this affect the legitimacy of mobilisations against pesticide use? Which factors condition the emergence of such mobilisations – or their absence? Lastly, but importantly, this focus strongly welcomes presentations on experiences of alternative (organic or less pesticide-intensive) modes of production and distribution. Drawing on individual examples, which political, social and economic factors condition the success or failure of these alternative approaches – and to what extent do they remain local forms of resistance (for instance, based on niche markets) or do they attempt to engage more structural transformations towards more sustainable agricultural *systems*?

